

JUNE, 1959



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# AMATEUR RADIO

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### EDITOR:

R. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, VK3RN.

### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:

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ously on 7145 Kc., 145.2 Mc. and  
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are available.

VK3WI: Sundays, 0930 hours EST, simultane-  
ously on 3050, 7145 and 145.2 Kc.  
Individual frequency checks of Amateur  
Stations given when VK3WI is on the air.

## EDITORIAL



## TO GENEVA—WHAT THEN?

In the near future, at Geneva, a  
group of men will gather around the  
conference table and form opinions  
and come to conclusions regarding  
the pattern of the Radio Frequency  
Spectrum for some years to come.  
The result of their deliberations will  
effect many people in various walks  
of life throughout the world. Not  
least among these will be the Radio  
Amateurs.

The recent announcement by the  
Postmaster-General as to the pro-  
posals for the frequency allocation  
of the Amateur Service has brought  
forth a great deal of comment. The  
suggestion that the present narrow  
bands available for general com-  
munication be reduced still further  
is a devastating blow at the Amate-  
ur generally.

Apart from the fact that the  
Amateur is of especial value to his  
country both in peace and war, the  
Institute firmly believes that the  
extremely narrow bands even now  
available are totally inadequate for  
the purposes of private radio com-  
munication. These frequencies, small  
as they are, are the final strongholds  
of personal freedom in the radio  
spectrum. They are the only places  
where a radio operator may exer-  
cise his rights as an individual. Here  
an operator may utilise what form  
of transmission he desires; he may  
speak with whom he pleases; he may  
discuss any range of normal  
subjects; he acts as a free loyal citizen  
and subject of his country.

What is going to happen if, due to  
continuous paring, the Amateur Ser-  
vice bands are reduced to nothing?  
The whole of the spectrum will be  
authoritatively controlled; all will  
operate as directed; the bands will  
be regimented; the free voice will  
be stifled for ever. What of the pro-  
posals and Geneva?

The Radio Amateur includes in his  
code Loyalty and Patriotism. That

he acts on this cannot be denied. The  
list of those Amateurs who made the  
Supreme Sacrifice in recent wars  
proves that they were no chair-borne  
cavaliers. The citations for work  
against flood and fire indicate their  
outlook in peace time. The Amateur  
sets a proud record of ready, willing  
sacrifice for any worthy cause.

But what of that reduction of fre-  
quencies on his already overcrowded  
bands? The Amateur is disturbed at  
these proposals. Do these bands  
really have to be taken? Are there  
no modern technical methods which  
can be devised by commercial inter-  
ests to extend channel availability?  
Amateurs have successfully adopted  
devices which have allowed for the  
ever-increasing population of their  
own bands. Why cannot commercial  
interests do the same? Can it really  
be proven that the other interests  
are in such difficulties that in spite  
of the most modern techniques the  
communication facilities are breaking  
down? Does this condition exist?

And what of Geneva? It was most  
fortunate that the Institute planned  
to have one of its members at the  
conference table so that he could  
report back to those in Australia  
what was happening. This member  
with balanced judgment and under-  
standing mind will bring back a  
wealth of knowledge concerning  
trends and outlook on an Interna-  
tional scale. On this information the  
Institute must plan for the confer-  
ence which follows that of Geneva.

The Institute must be sure that  
our bands are retained. The Amate-  
urs hold a very precious part of  
man's inheritance, a thing that he  
has fought and died for. Amateurs  
throughout the world must be ever  
watchful.

"The price of liberty is eternal  
vigilance."

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE

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# GENEVA and the AMATEUR SERVICE

The Postmaster-General has released as public property the proposals from his Department which went forward to Geneva last March to be interrelated with the proposals of other countries to become the format for the International Telecommunications Union Conference which commences on the 17th August, 1959.

These proposals include changes in various parts of the spectrum, but of particular interest to us are those frequencies allotted to the Amateur Service. Mention of these changes was made in a recent tape recording (and printed in "A.R." April 1959—Ed.); but despite this forewarning, the actual details of these changes came as a surprise to most Amateurs. Spontaneous protests from Amateurs throughout the Commonwealth to their Federal Members, however, resulted in wide support for the preservation of the status quo for Amateur frequencies from all parties in both Houses of the Australian Parliament.

Despite the efforts of the W.I.A. to present adequate reasons from the Amateur viewpoint for the retention of existing frequency assignments, it became perfectly obvious from the outset that no matter what form our protestations took, the Frequency Allocation Sub-Committee would merely listen sympathetically but vote for the requirements of the frequency user with the so called "higher priority" regardless. The W.I.A. had no other alternative but to ask for assistance in defence of the right of the Amateur in more powerful quarters.

Due mainly to the laudable representations made on our behalf by the honorable Alan Fairhall, M.H.R., who holds a transmitting license under the call sign VK2KB, and Senator George Hannan, Senator for Victoria, who has always been vitally interested in the Amateur movement, our case was presented to the Government and has gained such unexpected support from members in every part of the Australian Parliament that we can feel perfectly reassured that our case was a legitimate one.

Elsewhere in this issue of "Amateur Radio" you can read for yourselves extracts from Parliamentary Debates (Hansard) which will give you details in chronological order of what was said in defence of Amateur Radio and I think you will agree no finer tributes and recognitions could have been made.

Alderman Jones, of Newcastle, took the matter into the Labour Caucus which was unanimous that the Postmaster-General withdraw, review and re-draft the current proposals. Alan Fairhall took the matter to the Government Party Room. Senator Hannan raised the matter in the Senate. Both of these honorable members received support, and as at the time of writing the matter has reached a stage where it will be scrutinised by the Federal Cabinet.

The proposals, if they get through the Geneva Conference, will be disastrous to Amateur Radio in Australia. From Atlantic City the Australian Amateur

lost more than any other country in the world and that includes New Zealand which is in the same world region. Why? Now, eleven years later, we are faced with more reductions and in the same bands. This time we know the reasons and cannot under any circumstances support them as having a priority any greater than our own. The Postmaster-General, guided by his Departmental officers, states that the drastic reductions "amounts not so much to reductions as to the rationalisation and alteration of existing frequencies". For a growing country like Australia, but which is still small, population wise, compared to America and England, this so termed "rationalisation" does this to our bands:—

Current Allocations	
3.5 to 3.8 Mc.	
7.0 to 7.1 Mc. (exclusive)	
7.1 to 7.15 Mc. (shared)	
14.0 to 14.35 Mc.	
21.0 to 21.45 Mc.	
26.96 to 27.23 Mc. (shared with I.S.M. Services)	
28.0 to 30.0 Mc.	
58.0 to 60.0 Mc.	
144.0 to 148.0 Mc.	

Proposed Allocations	
3.5 to 3.7 Mc.	
7.0 to 7.1 Mc. (exclusive!!)	
14.0 to 14.25 Mc.	
21 Mc. band (as currently used, we are told)	
26.96 to 27.23 Mc. (same)	
28.0 to 30.0 Mc. (same)	
58.0 to 58.0 Mc.	
146.0 to 150.0 Mc.	

No Proposals to vary any bands higher up.

These proposals provide for a reduction of 100 Kc. off the 80 metre band, 50 Kc. off the 40 metre band, and 100 Kc. off the 20 metre band in the short wave frequency bands. A reduction of 2 Mc. in the 56-60 Mc. and a movement of the entire 144 Mc. band upwards by 2 Mc.

The changes which will prove the most dangerous are in the short wave bands mainly; particularly the 20 and 40 metre bands which are, by and large, the most heavily populated bands the world over. And why are they required? To provide channels for services whose existing channels will be less useful as the sunspot cycle advance is one reason, and to provide clear channels for the reception (not transmission mark you) of overseas programmes into Australia! And so the easy way out is to take frequencies from the Amateur Service because it is considered by the Postmaster-General's Department as having the lowest priority to the exclusion of all the assets in its favour. No wonder the Amateur "is up in arms about the matter."

Government members have told you that this is a typical example of bureaucracy at work, decisions being made on behalf of the Parliament and the people without the knowledge of the Parliament and the people. They have told you to write to your local Member protesting against the proposals to reduce your operating bands. Do it!

This is the greatest opportunity Amateur Radio has had to have its case heard by other than a group of officers who, on the one hand, say they have the responsibility of looking after the interests of the Amateur, and, on the other hand, sit in conference with representatives from other large frequency users (all Government instrumentalities) with the prime object of providing for their requirements at the expense of the Amateur. There seems very little effort to consider the introduction of new techniques as a solution to finding more channel space, a challenge which the Amateur has always accepted with infinitely less capital and material resources at his command. But in 1947 he was cut down far enough—to the minimum in fact. Beyond that, as his activity of recent weeks shows, he is prepared to fight for a fair share of what was once his own—given to him by Governments who said it was useless domain.

There is no real reason why the Amateur Service cannot maintain the status quo for there is every reason to believe that the large Amateur populated countries are not expecting other than small variations to their existing frequency allocations in the v.h.f. region.

The Federal Executive sent this telegram to the Acting Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. J. McEwen, and other members of the Parliament:—

"Wireless Institute of Australia endorses protestations made by Australian Amateurs and appreciates support given by your Government in bringing this matter to notice of Australian people. Stop W.I.A. firmly opposes proposed frequency curtailments by P.M.G. Department on grounds that negative approach to frequency allocation problems cannot ever be resolved by reduction in Amateur bands to detriment of Service so valuable to Australian future. Stop Long after Amateur extinct P.M.G. would still be faced with similar problem. Stop Suggest Government investigate reasons behind proposals for Amateur band reductions on basis of lack of foresight in use of modern transmission and reception techniques by frequency users grasping Amateur frequencies as simple but temporary means for solving problem."

—G. Maxwell Hull, Federal President (for Federal Executive, W.I.A.).

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# Parliamentary Comments on Proposals to Cut Amateur Frequencies

Commencing on 30th April, questions asked in the House of Representatives and the Senate indicated that members had received some indication of the cuts which were proposed in the Amateur frequencies. Following this, Senator Hannan, Mr. A. Fairhall, M.H.R. (VK2KB), and Mr. J. Fraser, M.H.R., all spoke at length on this subject and revealed that substantial cuts were proposed on the 80, 40 and 20 metre bands. Later it was revealed that the 5 metre band was to be halved.

Following the release of this information and its broadcast by VK2WL, Amateur operators lodged indignant protests by telegrams and letters to their Federal Members. For the information of Amateurs generally, we print herewith extracts from Hansard indicating the support that has been given to Amateurs by their representatives in both Houses.

## QUESTIONS

In the Senate on 30th April, 1959, Senator Wood asked the following series of questions with notice:

- (1) Is it a fact that Australia will be represented by an official delegation at the conference of the International Telecommunications Union shortly to be held in Geneva to revise the currently operating telecommunications convention?
- (2) Is it a fact that Australian departments have prepared a series of proposals, altering present arrangements, which will be sponsored by the Australian delegation?
- (3) Do these proposals relate to the use of telecommunications by businessmen, commercial interests, private users of telecommunications services, and to the incidental use of radio services by various non-Governmental authorities and interests, and are some of the proposals designed to curtail facilities at present available?
- (4) Have the Commonwealth proposals yet been publicly announced, or will they be publicly announced in advance of the meeting so that informed Australian public opinion can pass judgment on their desirability for the guidance of the Australian delegates?
- (5) Have the proposals been forwarded, or will they be forwarded, prior to the meeting, for the information of delegations from other participating States?
- (6) Are the proposals being disclosed in advance to other Governmental authorities, and, if so, would the Postmaster-General explain why such information is not being disclosed to the Australian public.

On the same day in the House of Representatives, Mr. Cameron asked the following:

MR. C. E. CAMERON, to the Postmaster-General.—On what dates were the international agreements on telecommunication and radio services, which were drawn up at the telecommunications Conference at Atlantic City, United States of America, and are now in operation in Australia—

- (a) Presented to the Senate and the House of Representatives;
- (b) Explained to the Senate and the House of Representatives; and
- (c) Debated and ratified by the Senate and the House of Representatives?

Answer.—The Atlantic City Convention was signed for Australia with the authority of the Prime Minister and the Governor-General, and was ratified by the Governor-General in Council on 8th December, 1948. The instruments of ratification in respect of Australia were deposited with the International Telecommunication Union on 7th January, 1949, on which date the convention entered into force for Australia.

On 8th May, 1959, in the House of Representatives, Mr. J. Fraser, M.H.R. for A.C.T., tabled the following written questions:

- (1) Will Australia be represented at a meeting of the International Telecommunications Conference to be held in Geneva in August this year?
- (2) If so, will officers of his Department represent Australia?

● It is felt that the subject matter contained in this issue is of such importance to all Radio Amateurs that no apology is necessary for the lack of technical articles and the curtailment of featured notes.

- (3) Have proposals which are to be put forward by Australia been drawn up by a committee known as the Frequency Allocation and Services Committee?
- (4) What is the constitution of this committee?
- (5) Are Amateur radio operators and their organisations excluded from membership of this committee; if so, for what reasons?
- (6) Do the proposals of the committee include a recommendation for a reduction in the wave bands allocated to amateurs?
- (7) Does the committee propose that wave bands available to Amateurs shall be reduced, in the 80 metre band from 3.50-3.80 megacycles to 3.00-3.80 megacycles; in the 40 metre band from 7.00-7.10 megacycles; and in the 20 metre band from 14.00-14.35 megacycles to 14.00-14.35 megacycles?
- (8) Have any protests been made by representatives of amateur radio operators against these proposed reductions?
- (9) Is it a fact that at present the bands are very crowded and are likely to become more so with the growth of population?
- (10) Is the number of amateur operators in Australia increasing each year?
- (11) Is there plenty of space in the rest of the radio spectrum and could this space be allotted to other services without disturbing amateur allocations?
- (12) Have amateur radio operators and their organisations performed valuable work in national emergencies, and do they form a part of the civil emergency network and devote considerable time to regular practice?
- (13) Is it a fact that, although emergency work of this kind requires only a small fixed frequency, there is need for a wider frequency to enable amateurs to practise and use their equipment so as to be ready for emergency work?
- (14) Has the training provided by amateur radio organisations proved invaluable to the armed forces in war-time, as well as a source for providing trained operators?
- (15) Could this form of training be seriously affected if the proposed, or further, reductions in amateur wave bands are made?
- (16) Was it the work of radio amateurs which led to the original use and subsequent development of shortwave radio?
- (17) Are these amateurs now to be squeezed out of the shortwave bands because of the construction of a new radio network?
- (18) In the interest of radio amateurs, will he make as full a statement as possible on all these questions?

Answer:

An Australian Administrative Radio Conference to commence in Geneva on 17th August, 1959.

Continued to be represented by a delegation composed of officers of the Postmaster-General's Department and Departments of Navy, Army, Air, Civil Aviation

and External Affairs, the Overseas Telecommunications Commission (Australia) and the Australian Broadcasting Control Board.

- (3) Proposals affecting certain of the international radio regulations were formulated by the Frequency Allocation Sub-committee of the Telecommunications Advisory Committee.
- (4) The Frequency Allocation Sub-committee is composed of representatives of the Postmaster-General's Department and Departments of Navy, Army, Air, Supply and Civil Aviation, the Overseas Telecommunications Commission, and the Australian Broadcasting Control Board. The committee has authority to co-opt representatives of other radio users as occasion demands.
- (5) The committee is an inter-departmental body and users of licensed radio services including amateur radio operators are not fully represented on the committee.
- (6) The proposals provide for some adjustments to frequency bands assigned to various classes of services including amateurs.
- (7) Yes.
- (8) Yes.
- (9) Yes.
- (10) The bands allotted for use by Australian amateur stations are not crowded nor is it likely that they will become so with the rapid population increase in the foreseeable future.
- (11) Yes. During the year 1958 the number increased from 3,500 to 3,720.
- (12) In general the bands below 30 megacycles allotted for use by services other than amateurs are greatly overloaded throughout the world.
- (13) Yes.
- (14) The space available in all amateur bands is adequate to meet all working and practice needs.
- (15) Amateur radio operators and organisations do valuable work in training for defence and other purposes.
- (16) Adoption of the present proposals could not prejudice in any way the training work mentioned.
- (17) Many radio amateurs have played an important part in the development of short wave radio.
- (18) No.
- (19) A statement has been made to the House.

## SENATE—8th MAY

SENATOR HANNAN (Victoria).—Mr. President, I wish to refer to a non-party matter, and I shall detain the Senate for only four or five minutes in doing so. I refer to a decision of a departmental committee to recommend to the International Frequency Conference to be held in Geneva in August that frequency allocations to amateur operators in Australia, in the 20, 40 and 80 metre bands, be slashed by one-third.

This international body meets every ten or eleven years at a governmental level and allocates for the ensuing period of ten or eleven years a time slot which is not an abbreviation for the past 30 years it has worked out at eleven years—the frequencies to be used throughout the world by commercial operators and all other users of radio frequencies. The departmental committee in Australia is known as F.A.S.C., or the Frequency Allocation Sub-Committee. The abbreviation title is not an abbreviation for "Fascist", even though the action taken in this instance has been somewhat dictatorial. It is an advisory committee on which are represented the Navy, the Army, the Air Force, the Australian Interdepartmental Telecommunications Advisory Committee, the Postmaster-



General's Department, the Australian Broadcasting Control Board and the Department of Civil Aviation. The committee advises the Postmaster-General on frequency allocations both in Australia and in other countries. The Postmaster-General on frequency allocations in Australia are not represented on the committee, even though they are very important to frequency operators throughout the world are important users of radio frequencies.

The Government has sent its directions to Geneva for publication to the other governments concerned. Unfortunately, the recommendations of the allocation sub-committee were made known to Australian amateur operators and to the public only last week-end. My request, Mr. President, is that the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Sir Walter Cooper) who represents the Postmaster-General in this chamber, should confer with his colleagues to see whether the Australian delegation, instead of going to Geneva determined to set out one of the radio frequencies used by amateur operators, can change its front and unite with the governments of the United States of America and other countries to preserve for amateur operators all frequencies at present being used by them.

On this it is fair to say that this is an excellent example of the regulation of people's affairs by departmental decrees in a manner which is thoroughly democratic. On other occasions that I have had to approach the Postmaster-General on behalf of the Wireless Institute of Australia, I have always found that he is always ready to co-operate. I feel that this is a matter which somehow or other has slipped past his guard. Therefore, I ask his Hon. Member to direct the committee to the possibility of re-directing the Australian delegation to Geneva so that, instead of these frequencies being given away without a struggle, the matter will be properly protected.

I do not think it is necessary for me, at this late hour, to canvass the value of these frequencies to the Commonwealth of Australia in an electronic age. When one speaks about amateur radio operators, it is almost axiomatic that one refers to men and women who are the backbone of the nation, who are valuable to the Navy, the Army and the Air Force at the moment they join those services. It would be surprising to find that there are many national disasters such as floods and bush fires. We know of the help they gave as recently as last year when a yacht was wrecked in the Tasmanian Inman Sea. The amateur radio operator has proved himself to be a valuable link in the communications chain. For those reasons, I have had occasion to ask the Minister for Repatriation to see whether at this late stage the direction can be reversed.

**SENATOR WILKERSE** (Western Australia).—I was not aware, until I heard a whisper earlier this evening, of the matter that Senator Hannan has brought forward. I have had occasion to note the value of the work done by radio hams, as they are known throughout the world.

**SENATOR MAHER**.—They do not like that term.

**SENATOR WILKERSE**.—Nevertheless, that is the name by which they are known. I am sure the word "ham" is not used in the theatrical world. I am sure the people who are known as Senator Hannan are correct—I am not suggesting that they are not all correct—they come to me with the correct facts. Some of them are going overseas and are volunteering to give away some of our bands. I want to know what is happening in other parts of the world. Surely we are getting into a factor of the fact that some of our bands and let other countries all back with what they have!

**SENATOR HANNAN**.—The surrender under me to commercial interests rather than to other amateurs.

**SENATOR WILKERSE**.—Amateurs in other parts of the world will not be making the same contribution?

**SENATOR HANNAN**.—They are not, at the moment.

**SENATOR WILKERSE**.—That is what concerns me so much. It is a weakness that these people are not represented on the committee. It is not possible to establish a committee without help, amateur radio operators have. I do not wish to delay the Senate, but merely to add a note of protest. I have had occasion to request to the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Sir Walter Cooper), who represents the Postmaster-General. Because it will be the Minister's duty to see that the committee at next week a statement be made explaining the action of the committee and the reasons for that. But I am sure that the Minister will be asked to, even at this late stage, for the opportunity to be given to these amateur operators to put their viewpoint to the allocations sub-committee.

**SENATOR LAUGHT** (South Australia).—I desire to rise in support of the remarks of Senator Hannan, which were elaborated upon by an Opposition Senator. I have received from the South Australian Council of the Wireless Institute of Australia a telegram which indicates that the South Australian division of the Institute proposes to attend the Wireless Institute for a serious reduction of frequencies allocated to the amateur radio services. I can assure the Senate that news of the committee's action was received with much regret in this State. I end. I believe that the Minister for Repatriation (Senator Sir Walter Cooper) should seek, for the Government, the Wireless Institute, the plan of the matter that has been put forward so excellently by Senator Hannan.

**SENATOR WRIGHT** (Tasmania).—There is only one thing I want to say. I rise to mention it, not because it is a matter of great importance. I think we can detect in this matter an instance of a practice that is becoming all too frequent—the practice of departmental officers going to international conferences and entering into international agreements which come back as falls accomplish and which are expected to be approved by the Senate and the Parliament. I hope the Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson) will take that aspect of the matter into consideration. Surely any proposal that goes to an international conference should have been given some consideration by the Parliament, and surely the Government should have to depend on the approval of the House of parliamentary approval. Otherwise the Parliament of the country is completely bypassed. I hope it will not be decided that the Wireless Institute recall will be the subject of the first event of the Convention and Hague Protocol on civil aviation liability, we were confronted with an international agreement that was being translated into the law of this Commonwealth.

**SENATOR WOOD** (Queensland).—I do not wish to detain the Senate for long at this late hour, but I think it is right that we should signify our support for Senator Hannan in the very few minutes that I have left. I am sure that who comes from the cyclone area of North Queensland, I realise the great value of these amateur radio operators. They are one of the few communications where other means of communications are not available. We remember some of their activities during times of distress in North Queensland. I am sure that when the ordinary avenues of communications were not open to the people. These amateur radio operators, I am sure, have rendered a great humanitarian service to the people living in the distressed area. It is to send support to Senator Hannan in his fight against the proposals that are being put forward. I rise on this occasion.

I strongly support the views put forward by Senator Hannan. I believe that the Senate, which this Parliament should jealously guard at all times. Sometimes we are too easy in these matters. The views put forward by Senator Wright are worthy of great consideration. This Parliament should retain its right to deal with these matters, and not leave them to the Executive.

**SENATOR WADE** (Victoria).—I congratulate Senator Hannan for bringing this matter to the notice of the Senate. I have first-hand experience of the value of amateur radio operators in Victoria. I speak to you of their worth to the State in times of flood and fire.

Victoria has a unique organisation in that from 100 to 600 enthusiasts have banded together to perfect a communication system that has to be believed. You have to see the operations of this organisation in times of trouble. During days of acute fire danger, countless men throughout the length and breadth of the State stand by their radios and are ready to volunteer service to their fellow men. That is typical of the spirit that actuates the amateur radio operators. Other States are not blessed with radio operators of the quality with which Victoria is blessed. I ask the Government to have a look at the needs of the amateur radio operators in Victoria. It is the people who will be called upon to form, in their States, the kind of organisation that now exists in Victoria. You cannot assess in terms of money the value of the service that amateur radio operators render to the nation.

**SENATOR SIR WALTER COOPER** (Queensland, Minister for Repatriation).—I am greatly indebted to the members who have been put forward by Senator Hannan, and supported by other honorable senators, in regard to the activities of the Wireless Institute. I am sure those honorable Senators that I shall bring this matter before my colleague, the Postmaster-General, tomorrow, as a result of the debate is received.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—6th MAY

**MR. FAIRHALL** (Paterson).—... and turn my attention to the subject of the allocation of some national importance and which concerns the administration of the Postmaster-General's Department. I refer to the fact that towards the end of the year 1935, the Postmaster-General, for a few months thereafter, there will be assembled in Geneva the conference held at Geneva for the purpose of the International Telecommunications Union, to which Australia is a signatory. From this conference I fear that irreparable damage will be done to a service the value of which would be to be of considerable value. That is the service presented to Australia by the amateur radio operators.

Sir, the task of the International Telecommunications Union, or its major task, will be to decide how the radio frequency channels are to be allocated between the variety of services requiring room therein. It will have to decide which frequencies will be made available to broadcasting, local and international, to television, to communications, to radar, to navigation, to amateur radio, and to all the other services that are increasingly finding use for the radio spectrum. I am sure member countries have sent to Geneva their proposals for amendment of the frequency allocation table. I am sure that the proposals abroad, and at Geneva those proposals are being correlated with the proposals of other countries. The correlation will be circulated to all member countries, and will serve as the working document for the conference which, as I have stated, will begin in August.

With regard to the section with which I am particularly concerned—the radio amateurs of Australia—I want to express some concern at the reluctance of the Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson) to make public the recommendations. The fact of the matter, Sir, is that these recommendations are being made public for the express purpose of being published to other members signatory to the convention. It is rather an odd circumstance in my view that the Government of Australia should object to these proposals. I think it is rather important to note that without the opportunity for debate in the House, a minority of the members of a paper in this House, it may well be that the matter would pass unnoticed by Parliament or even by the Government itself. This is a completely unusual situation in which Australia may well find herself committed by international agreement in this very important matter, a matter which will affect the radio channels without either the Government, the Parliament, or the people of Australia knowing it. I am sure that the matter has been approved by agreement in our name.

It may well be that the Postmaster-General feels that he has the best experts in this country within his department and therefore, on a matter as technical as this, there is not much point in referring it either to the Government, the Parliament, or the people. My appreciation of the technical competence of the Postmaster-General's Department is not reduced by my belief that there is, within the Postmaster-General's Department, a body of people who are thoroughly competent to express their views on the subject. I do not suggest that the Postmaster-General's Department should not bring a full sense of responsibility to their task in this connection. I am sure that the Postmaster-General is not human if they did not take advantage of their peculiar situation in this matter. The Postmaster-General's Department is in a position to make available the recommendations, and only under considerable pressure with respect to amateur radio operations has the Government been asked to do so. Australia. When these recommendations were published at the week-end I think a considerable number of members of both Houses would have been because of a very real issue, probably received letters and communications of one kind or another from amateur radio operators. I am sure that the Postmaster-General would have been able to make the proposed reductions in their allocations.

As I pointed out, my interest lies particularly in the allocations for the use of amateur radio operators. These people are a minority. Their activities are non-commercial, yet they provide an extraordinary service to the nation and to the country. It is for those reasons that I believe I am justified in taking up the cudgels on their behalf. I am sure that the Postmaster-General will be very co-operative on this matter. In the limits of his reluctance and arranged for me to meet in Melbourne, a couple of weeks ago, I am sure that the Postmaster-General will advise his department on these technical matters.



ters. That committee is the Frequency Allocation Sub-Committee. After some superficial discussions with the committee on what, after all, is a deeply technical subject, I came away not at all satisfied that the right thing was being done, but worst of all I came away with a very great concern for the 3,500 radio amateurs in this country, whose future I believe to be seriously threatened by the proposed reductions in the frequency channels available to them.

Perhaps I should say a word or two about these amateurs and the service that they render to this country. First of all, as I have said, they are members of a non-commercial organization. They represent a minority of the taxpayers of Australia. Because they are non-commercial and because their activities are of a spare-time nature, they are regarded, I am sure, by the Administration as having a low priority in the scheme of things generally. Perhaps, unless this matter is brought to public attention, the amateurs will lose valuable privileges for all time and Australia may well lose an extraordinary valuable asset. The amateurs consist of an international body of technical enthusiasts. They number something like 250,000. They are found in every country in

the world, not excluding iron curtain countries. They are a group of non-commercial technicians who interest themselves in this technical occupation in their spare time and at their own cost. The Australian Government, like all governments, as their past record has shown, in order to serve this country when it needs them most. These occasions in recent times have been in time of war, and during the cold war emergency. These people find in radio an outlet for their experimental, developmental and inventive ideas. They are a source of pride and of life. You will find radio amateurs amongst industrial apprentices and atomic scientists. You will find them amongst school teachers, sportsmen, politicians, and even statesmen. I think that one or two crowned heads—whether they are still crowned I do not know—in times gone by, have been attracted to amateur radio. You will find radio amateurs in factories and laboratories. You will find them heading the communications departments of the armed services. You will find them in broadcasting services. The important point, I think, is that their international operations provide a very potent source for the development of international understanding and goodwill, and nobody will doubt that we are in great need of that commodity today.

The amateurs are recognized by the International Telecommunications Union as a fully fledged international service with international frequencies specifically reserved for them. There was a time, as many of us will remember, when the wavelengths below 100 metres were regarded as of little value and the amateur was free to romp in that spectrum as he wished. I do not think that it is too much to say that his inventive and developmental skill and his tenacity enabled him to show that those wavelengths were not entirely useless. Little by little their value was expended as new techniques were discovered until today wavelengths not down to 100 metres, but down as low as 3 centimetres, with tremendous technical problems involved, are nevertheless very valuable public property. As these wavelengths become more valuable, so the amateurs have become more squeezed down further and their allocations reduced and restricted until today they operate in very narrow bands.

The only free space today for the amateur to carry on his experiments is in the radio frequency channels below 1 centimetre in wavelength. That is pretty valuable territory at the moment, because we have developed neither the equipment nor the techniques to make use of it. But little by little, as amateur radio operators move into this territory, and of course, with the assistance of scientific laboratories, we will be able to use the channels of the ordinarily high frequencies, and once again the amateur radio operators will be squeezed down still further; that is, assuming that they have not been squeezed out already. It is because of the possibility, or even probability, that they will be so squeezed out that I think it is necessary to refer to the position at this time.

Amateurs throughout the world, by international reservations made at counterpart conferences to that which we held at Geelong, have bands in harmonic relation to 80, 40, 20, 10, down to 3 metres and into the shorter wavelengths. These world reserves are based on the availability of these frequencies to the amateurs need for international communication has encouraged into their ranks a vast number of people over the world. As I have said, numbering over 250,000—to pursue technical knowledge and experience in those particular frequencies. The immediate war division and most other countries have received from this activity is that during times of war, we have been able to call on a great army of radio-trained technicians experienced in these high frequency techniques and they have been most useful. During periods of civil emergency when the ordinary channels of communication have gone out of action, we have found on almost every occasion if not every occasion that there have been amateurs there with portable equipment and so on to take up where the channels of communications have faded out. Certainly, they are only emergency communications, but they get us through and in the mood of the moment, particularly in New South Wales, there is in being an emergency network allied to the civil defence group which would render valuable service over the time should come when we find need of it.

For all these reasons, Australia owes a debt to its radio amateurs, and because the amateurs are entitled to expect something a little better from Australia and from the Government than is properly due when we seriously plan to reduce their allocations, some balance must come down by one-third and some by one-half. I believe if we make these reductions we will discourage entering amateurs and will—training themselves for national service—a

vast number of young men—and indeed, young women—who are going into technical occupations in Australia. The great danger is that we may regard the amateurs in Australia less as a source of technical knowledge and more as who are merely putting valuable frequency channels to rather inferior use.

I think it is worth noting, by way of comparison, that the amateur radio operators are licensed in the United States of America, where the problem of availability of frequencies is at least as acute as it is in Australia. There, more than our own, enjoy a much higher status with their government. Here in Australia when changes are proposed, notice merely comes out in the newspapers and the amateurs are asked if they must accept it. In the United States, if there are proposals to change conditions under which the amateur radio operators are to be public notification of the proposal and an opportunity given by the Federal Communications Commission for interested people to give evidence in public on the pros and cons of the proposed change. Here is evidence of a vastly higher appreciation of the amateurs in America than we afford them in Australia.

I should like to refer now briefly to the administrative processes which have produced the present situation. After the second world war, all communications in Australia were controlled by the Postmaster-General's Department because it administers the Post and Telegraph Department. The radio frequencies were under the control of the Navy and wartime requirements took priority as they were being met. After the second world war, amateurs received their licences back after the war—because naturally they were immobilised during the war—there were set up a number of technical advisory committees. One of these was the Technical Advisory Committee and under that name we have been calling the Frequency Allocations Sub-Committee. The personnel of this Frequency Allocations Sub-Committee was drawn from the Postmaster-General's Department, the Navy, the Department of Broadcasting Control Board when that was ultimately instituted, the Department of Supply, the Over-Sea Telecommunications Commission and the Department of Civil Aviation.

The point I stress to the House is that it will be seen that these members were representatives of the services which were the major users of radio frequency channels. As I have said, I do not for one moment believe that these people would have been held responsible for their task of advising the Government on the allocation of frequencies, but they would indeed be something more than that. They would be representing the amateur as representing as having a higher priority than the amateur transmitters on the side. As I say, I came away from this group of people with the amateurs firmly believing the amateurs were being given a too low priority altogether.

Now, Sir, I do not believe anybody who has looked at the scene or is acquainted with radio communications in any shape or form, will misunderstand the great problems in this field today. In the past ten years, the number of applications of the channels of available radio taxis, ambulances, police, supply authorities and so on have increased from 1,000 to 10,000. They are growing at the rate of 100 per cent a year, available and though they are to be regarded as having high priority, the tendency will be to squeeze out those of lower priority. That is the problem. The Technical Advisory Committee and the Postmaster-General's Department has pointed out, it is required to make additional space available for the services.

There are two ways of doing this job. One is by the use of more modern techniques because, in the course of discussion I had with the Technical Advisory Committee, the organization—a communications authority—pointed out that it made a vast multiplication in the applications of the channels of available radio by using modern translation techniques. The second way is to squeeze out those of lower priority who occupy frequency channels. I suggest that the Postmaster-General's Department, with more enthusiasm and great industry to the task of promoting more modern techniques of operation, which would make it possible to use more effective use of frequency channels available and less need to squeeze out those who may be regarded as having lower priority claims. On whether or not we will be able to do this, we need for additional frequencies to be made for international broadcasts, yet those few of us who are interested in the amateur radio service, dial on a radio receiver and attempt to listen to an international broadcast will be left, I am afraid, in little doubt as to the value of international broadcasts. The audience will be pretty near zero for this great reason: Where today most countries have high-powered short-wave transmitters, we have a few low-powered with a great deal of propaganda—because that is

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that advocated in another place, which will be discussed further in this chamber, they must carry weight in forming the opinions of those outside this House. These arguments must be weighed against the advice of the Minister's own officers, and the Minister must make a decision as to whether, in fact, justice has been done or an injustice perpetrated.

The Government's Government seems to me, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to be fostering policies which could lead, as the honorable member for Peterson has said, to the removal of amateur radio operators from the continent. The amateurs—and there are some 4,000 of them in Australia—are really up in arms about this. I believe that the situation is really being sizzling over the past few nights. I believe that there have been conversations from one end of the continent to the other on this subject because the amateurs really feel that they have been treated slightly by this Government and that the proper claims they have for consideration are being ignored for commercial, government and semi-government interests and, indeed, for foreign interests.

The allocation of wave bands involving international use of the air and associated matters is to be discussed at the convention of the International Telecommunications Union to be held in Geneva soon. This convention is held every eleven or twelve years and the last was held in Atlantic City, I think, 1947. Australia sends representatives including men selected from the amateur radio community. The proposals that are to be put forward have been framed by a committee known as the Frequency Allocation and Services Committee. That committee has recommended among other things very severe reductions in the wave bands available to amateurs in Australia. At present, Australia has amateur stations in the 80 metre band have the channels for 3.5 to 3.8 megacycles. It is proposed to reduce that range to 3.5 to 3.6 megacycles, which is a reduction of one-tenth of a megacycle or, as honorable members will know, 100 kilocycles. In the 40 metre band the present range is from 7 to 7.1 megacycles, which is a reduction of one-tenth of a megacycle, or 80 kilocycles. In the 20 metre band the present range is from 14 to 14.25 megacycles, and the proposal is that the channels available to amateurs be reduced to 14 to 14.2 megacycles, which involves a reduction of one-tenth of a megacycle or 100 kilocycles.

**MR. DUTHIE:**—Who will get the rest of those channels, if they are away?

**MR. F. R. FRASER:**—As the honorable member for Peterson has said, the Government has the task of allocating the channels in the bands. But the suggestion made by the amateurs is that they should have the rest of the spectrum which can be allotted to the commercial interests, which are mostly intruding into this band, and any interference being necessary in the allocations now available to amateur operators.

The proposal of this Frequency Allocation and Services Committee, if put forward by Australia and adopted at Geneva, will severely limit the operations of radio amateurs in Australia, because, as I understand it, the Geneva Convention fixes maxima only, and it is still possible for the Government of an individual country to impose further restrictions within those maxima. The reason for the indignation of the radio amateurs is that at present the short wave bands are very crowded, and obviously they will become more crowded as the population of this country increases and the number of amateur radio operators grows. As I have said, the amateurs claim that there is plenty of space in the rest of the spectrum which can be allotted to other services without disturbing their allocations.

It should be remembered that it was the radio amateurs themselves who were the original users, indeed the discoverers, of short waves. As the honorable member for Peterson said this afternoon, when broadcasting developed the amateurs were allotted frequencies below 160 metres on the band, and it was the amateurs themselves who, relegated to the lower end, developed the use of short waves and demonstrated their efficiency to such an extent that the interest of commercial and government users was aroused. I believe that if the present proposals were implemented the amateurs could be squeezed out of the short wave bands because of the intrusion of commercial and foreign interests. I hope that the Postmaster-General will have another look at this matter. Indeed, I think that he must, because the weight of argument against the proposals of the Frequency Allocation and Services Committee is such that it must be given regard by him. I have received a number of representations on this matter, including some from the Can-

berra Radio Society itself, putting forward very strong arguments as to why there should be no change in the allocation of channels to amateurs. I have received a letter from three constituents in the School of Physics of the Australian National University, and I intend to read portions of it. The letter opens by referring to the reductions that have been proposed by the committee, and proceeds—

"The above reductions have been recommended by a committee of the Postmaster-General's Department, to frame the Government's policy for the forthcoming I.T.U. conference at Geneva."

The letter then sets out the proposed changes. It first states the original United States and Australian allocations, which were varied eleven years ago so far as Australia is concerned, but are still extant in the United States. The letter continues—

"There is considerable poaching by commercial stations on these bands, which the authorities seem to ignore."

That reference is to poaching by commercial stations in other countries, which are also signatories to the convention, on the bands allocated here to amateur radio. The letter continues—

"It is realised that the demand for channels in the high frequency region is heavy, but it is very much heavier in North America than it is here and it is not thought necessary or desirable to curtail amateur activity there."

"Some of our recently lost frequencies, especially 15-17.3 megacycles, are now being used for European and Far East propaganda broadcasts, and for each broadcast there is jamming station, belonging to the opposition. The result is that 7.15 to 7.3 megacycles is now useless for everybody. The American answer to this has been to allow amateurs to use 1 kilowatt of Aushby in this band and not to bar them from it. We know that this privilege would not be abused here in Australia."

Of course, the power allotted to an amateur operator here is 100 watts, compared with the kilowatt allotted in America. The use of a kilowatt of Aushby in this band and use of much more expensive material than most amateurs can afford. The letter continues—

"Technical progress in radio mostly stems from large research organisations these days, but amateurs do provide a large body of people with some technical knowledge and experience. At present there is a great shortage of people with technical skills and we are always hearing about the gravity of the situation and the superiority of the Russians. To us, this seems no time to discourage a useful activity of some 4,000 Australians, but rather a time to restore some of the lost frequencies."

It seems to me that no harm would be done if we followed the American and Canadian regulations for frequency allocation and transmitted power.

"To follow a policy of continual reduction of bands will undoubtedly result in loss of interest and reduction in the numbers of amateurs who form a very useful pool of skilled people. We don't believe the frequencies we stand to lose will be put to a more worthy use, as this has not been the case in the past."

Other protests have been made. I have one in the form of a telegram sent by the operator of amateur radio station VK1, which reads—

"Protest slashing amateur frequency benefit foreign broadcasting post Query treatment Australians compared other countries example U.S. allocations 3500/4000 100/1500 view service record emergency potential."

From Coff's Harbour comes this telegram, obviously from an amateur operator in that area—

"Further drastic restrictions frequency allocations amateur radio operators tragically short-aged when Australia already lags badly higher technical education. As high school teacher deplore progressive extinction facilities training youth adults skills necessary our survival Suggest F.A.S.C. organise compulsory courses Russian Chinese.—Mattie, Coff's Harbour light."

I do not propose to take up much more of the time of the House on this matter. I do stress again that the radio amateurs of Australia, like radio amateurs generally throughout the world, as the honorable member for Peterson has said, do a most useful job in the community. They are men who have trained themselves and who continue to train themselves by keeping up a threat of dangers in this field. When disaster strikes in the form of flood, hurricane or fire, they are always ready to show up with their talk of keeping communications open, and it has been the custom of this House to express appreciation of the services these men have given. I cannot stress too strongly that they are not to be regarded merely as hobbyists who operate these stations for their own amusement or their own benefit. They have given tremendous assistance to this country, both in time of war and in time of peace, and I suggest that the country should repay them, badly indeed when, as has been recommended by the Frequency Allocation and Services Committee, it seeks to reduce the channels available for them to carry on their work, maintain their skill, and extend their experience.

I hope that the Minister for Social Services (Mr. McEwen) and the Minister for Defence (Mr. Forster) will see that the arguments put forward in this House both during the day and tonight are brought to the notice of the Postmaster-General so that he may review the proposals and the force of these arguments against the advice of the Frequency Allocation and Services Committee, which I believe is dominated by departmental representatives. Certainly it is a committee on which the amateurs are not represented. I believe that they should have the right to be

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represented on that committee and to put forward their views, even though the weight of numbers in the committee told against them. I hope that Australia will not put such a trick on its radio amateurs by reducing the number of channels available to them for their work, particularly at a time when this country is dealing with radio legislation which is continuing to increase so rapidly.

I suggest most seriously, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that we should discontinue the present method whereby those who are interested in dealing with in secret by a departmental committee whose recommendations are adopted, and sent overseas as the views of this country, without first having been heard by this Parliament. In fact, they are never dealt with by this Parliament—never brought before either this House or the Senate. The recommendations then become legislation by International convention, not legislation by this Parliament. I believe that that is a very grave fault in the procedure that is adopted in these cases and I hope that the Postmaster-General will take the opportunity to discuss this matter with a view to correcting the procedure.

**MR. WILFRID KENT HUGHES (Chisholm)**—I should like to join with the honorable member for the Chisholm (Mr. Fairbairn), the member for the Australian Capital Territory (Mr. J. R. Fraser) and other honorable members who have said the need for a different outlook to be taken by the Postmaster-General and the department in respect of amateur radio operators. I do not, like the honorable member for the Leichhardt (Mr. Davidson), see the other side of this subject. Also, I have not in my possession the details that the honorable member for the Australian Capital Territory has, to judge from his speech, he has already received three telegrams on the matter from three of the leaders of the amateur radio operators. I have had a collection, recently, with some other honorable members, in Antarctica Communications from many Australian stations there are received by an amateur radio operator, and I have seen amateur operators all over the world. I know well the excellent job that amateur radio operators are doing in receiving and transmitting such as bush fires and floods, in every part of Australia.

**MR. DUTHIE**—And in shipwrecks.

**MR. WILFRID KENT HUGHES**—Yes, and also in shipwrecks, especially in other parts of the world. The noble member for the Leichhardt (Mr. Davidson) also reminds me of the work that they did in wartime. Here we have a not very vocal section of the public, but a very interesting section of the public. They have given a lot of their time to something which some people may call a hobby, but which is really a passion. They have given very often produced results which have been of great value to the commercial radio operators. Now we propose—or we did propose, at one stage almost to ignore them before this International convention meets. This is another instance, Mr. Deputy Speaker, of something that I have mentioned in this House before I make another plea—perhaps only a plea in passing, but still a passionate plea—for more consideration to be given to the proper workings of the amateur radio operators in this Parliament. We are divorced from the people. Unlike a State Parliament, we are not sitting in the main centre of population of the area we govern. As a result of the procedure we follow, either we do not discuss things of importance—in the present case, the question of the interests and activities of amateur radio operators—or we put bills through with such speed that the people who will be affected do not even have a chance to make representations to their elected representatives. We have said they would like to be considered, and which very often should definitely be considered, before any measure is passed. We have said these people if they think that we and the federal Public Service have developed what they term a fine disregard for the feelings of the people, are now supposed to be considered that every member of the House will consider this question of parliamentary procedure and in this way, in this way, in this way, in this way, the honorable member for the Australian Capital Territory has called "legislation by International convention".

We have another case recently of such legislation by International convention. This was in the civil aviation field, and concerned a charter memorandum of understanding, which was unknown to the public generally.

Therefore, I not only join with those who ask the Postmaster-General to reconsider the position regarding amateur radio wavelengths, but I also join with those who ask the Postmaster-General to reconsider the position regarding the Australian Capital Territory in regard to legislation by International convention. If the

International conference concerned were a conference of the International Labour Organisation, we would proceed as usual. We would send some of our leading businessmen to the conference, in company with the public servants, as representatives of Australia. Why should the amateur radio operators have to raise funds to send a representative to this International radio conference, which is to deal with something that is not just a matter of concern to individuals? I think that everybody who is interested in the subject of amateur radio operators warrants their representatives being included among the people who are invited to the conference. However, we can only ask that the matter be reconsidered. The Minister for Social Services (Mr. Robertson), who is in charge of the House at the moment, will agree that the speaker of five minutes, so he will not know what was said by the honorable member for Paterson, and he will know only very little of what was said by the honorable member for the Australian Capital Territory. However, I ask him to ask the Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson) to read in tomorrow's "Herald" the remarks of these two honorable gentlemen, so that he will be fully apprised of what has taken place in the course of this debate.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES— 7th MAY

**MR. MAKIN**—I desire to direct a question to the Postmaster-General. Having received a telegram of protest from amateur radio operators in the month of March, the Postmaster-General's Department to recommend a reduction in the number of channels available for amateur radio service and research, I ask the Postmaster-General whether he will have this matter further reviewed, particularly in view of the splendid help given in radio in the month of March, and the work of amateur radio operators. What has prompted the department to think of sanctioning the backward step that has been suggested?

**MR. DAVIDSON**—The honorable member for Byron refers to a matter which is at present being dealt with in the Supply Committee. It was mentioned last night both in this chamber and in another place. I intend this afternoon or this evening to reply to some of the statements made by the honorable member and the matter raised by the honorable member will then be fully answered.

**MR. DALY (Grondyler)**—Mr. Speaker, I wish to take advantage of one of the rare opportunities provided by the Government for honorable members to draw the attention of the attention by constituents who are dissatisfied with the Government's actions as they affect them, both individually and collectively. The first matter that I want to raise concerns the re-allocation of frequency bands for the use of amateur radio operators. This matter has already been mentioned previously in this House. I have received a letter from one of my constituents, dated 3rd May, which reads—

"I would like to draw your attention to the proposed reduction of frequency bands for amateur radio operators. It has been officially suggested that the bands now in use be reduced to such narrow limits that only 10 in 100 will be possible at the one time on say 40 metres.

"Seeing that Australia's amateurs number about 3,500, the proposed narrowing down would mean that the amateur radio operators would be reduced to a very small number. Every night the bands are packed full of signals, so that even a small group would be able to give everyone a turn; two-way contacts are extremely rare. I would suggest that the popular 40-metre band be increased to 100 metres, and the 70-metre band to 7,300 kilocycles. Further reduction of it would be unthinkable.

"The value of the large number of amateur stations and trained operators throughout Australia will be very great in the event of future emergencies."

This letter was written to me by a constituent of mine, and I believe represents the sentiments to the best of my ability. The writer states further—

"The hobby is at present spreading interest and knowledge among the public, and is also supplying the technicians for the many branches of electrical industry, promoting international goodwill by the countless overseas contacts which are made on the hours of spare time, keeping many people happily occupied in their spare time. Many boys from our schools have taken up the hobby, and this is a result of seeing amateur radio displayed in their classrooms."

"Accordingly, I sincerely ask you to consider this subject carefully when it is raised in the House, and to defend the rights of amateurs to use the already over-limited frequencies."

I think that letter supports the contention that have been put forward by the honorable member for Paterson (Mr. Fairbairn), the honorable member for the Australian Capital Territory (Mr. J. R. Fraser), and other honorable members from both sides of the House who are concerned at this intrusion into the rights of amateur radio operators. I ask the Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson) to reconsider the changes that are mooted, and to meet the wishes of the amateur radio operators. When all is said and done, they are not asking for much. They are only asking for the right to enjoy a pastime that spreads international goodwill, that is of benefit to themselves and to the nation. I urge the Government to give effect to the opinions expressed by the honorable members on both sides of the House concerning this proposed intrusion into the rights of amateur radio operators, who do much to further the interests of this country.

**MR. FAIRBAIRN (Farrer)**—I am in agreement with the honorable member for Grondyler in his opinion that the Government should not reduce the number of frequencies available to amateur radio operators. I hope the Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson) will have another look at this and see whether anything can be done.

**MR. BRIMBLECOMBE (Maroon)**—I would like to direct the attention of the House to the feeling of frustration which exists among the amateur radio operators of Australia since the month of March, when the Government reduced the frequencies available to them as recommended by me, I understand, a technical committee.

I am mentioning the feeling of frustration that exists among amateur radio operators because of the announcement that they are to have a proportion of the bands on which they are operating. The announcement, some months ago the amateur radio operators of Australia banded together and decided to send a representative to the Government to ask for an International conference to be held in Geneva. They will try to fight mainly commercial interests to retain these bands. Imagine their frustration when they found that the Government, through the technicians of the Postmaster-General's Department, has sent a recommendation that the Government should reduce a third of the wavelengths they are using at present. It seems to be a foregone conclusion as far as this Government is concerned, it will have to have proportion of the bands. I suggest that the position with regard to the forthcoming conference is untenable.

The statement has also been made that the amateurs are not to be taken into the bands that are allocated to them at present. A monitoring system has been used to ascertain whether these bands have been used. Let me remind the House that the majority of amateur radio operators work all day and can operate their radio equipment only at night or in the early morning. If the Government takes these bands, it will be found that these are the times when they use the frequencies most. To whom is it proposed to give these bands? It is proposed to give them to some commercial interests, either overseas or in this country; and in any case it will probably be given to the most powerful. The bands will be jammed by overseas operators. When one considers the service that these amateurs have rendered the country over the years, the treatment of them is just not good enough.

There is another matter that I want to mention in this connection. It concerns the restriction placed on amateurs as a result of which they can broadcast only in English in every other country, amateurs may broadcast in any language they wish, and the Australian amateur radio operators. It has been the motto to me that there exists a considerable amount of

## POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S REPLY

**MR. DAVIDSON (Dawson—Postmaster-General)**—I want to confine my remarks this afternoon to certain references that have been made in the House regarding the reduction of frequency bands. I am referring to the conference, a conference of the members of the International Telecommunications Union, to be held in Geneva commencing on 17th August, and which will last for a considerable period. In this debate, references have been made to certain proposals which are under consideration by the committee, and the Australian amateur radio operators. It has been the motto to me that there exists a considerable amount of

misconception as to the meaning of the proposals and their application. This has been done, I think, in most cases although not in all. In fact, the great majority of the honorable members has been informed by letters and telegrams they have received during the last few months from the representatives of the Wireless Institute of Australia. I am not questioning the action of honorable members in bringing the matter forward, because they have a perfect right to do so. I am not questioning the action of those who get in touch with them. But I do say that the references there have made do not convey the complete picture. I am offering this opportunity to give some further information to the House.

In doing so, I do not propose to refer in detail to statements made by different honorable members. I shall take the general survey of the points which have been referred to. I think last night, by the honorable member for Peterson (Mr. Fairhall), I shall take his remarks as setting out the main points that have been made in the debate, and I shall apply myself to them. Let me say that recently I have had a considerable amount of correspondence with the honorable member for Peterson who, as every one knows, has interested himself for very many years in the field of radio and has acquired a considerable amount of knowledge and experience. Although he himself is the first to admit that he is not a technical expert. First let me say that I am a layman, and I am not a technical expert. I may also say, just a little further to find that in his introduction of this matter he referred on several occasions to an alleged reluctance on my part to discuss the matter. In one statement he said that considerable pressure had to be exerted to induce me to give information. Well, I repeat here that I am a layman, and I think I am entitled to give the House some history of the development of this matter, not simply for the purpose of clearing up the statement but also for some basic information regarding this question of our delegation at the conference that is to be held. This information may be of use to the honorable member. I am sure that the Government has been inconsiderate towards the amateurs and their supporters.

Let me point out that the first person to make a statement at the meeting of the forthcoming conference, and the desirability of the Wireless Institute being looked after, was a gentleman who sits in another place. As long as the conference is held, he is entitled to make a request from the federal executive of the Institute that the Institute should be granted representation on the delegation which will go to Geneva next August.

**MR. DUTHIE.—A good suggestion.**

**MR. DAVIDSON.—**Yes, it was a good suggestion, and after some debate I agreed that the Institute would have representation. The organization was so advised and was granted representation on the basis on which representation is usually granted in such matters. That is to say, its delegate would not have voting rights, would be present for the purpose of listening to discussions and taking part in deliberations within our own deliberations. He would then be in a position to make the report to the Institute. His arguments were sound, to influence the representations being made by the official delegation. This was agreed to by a number of the members of the Institute, and I understand that the branch members of the Institute subscribed £1 in order to pay the very considerable expenses involved. I am sure that the Government is recognizing the requirements of the amateurs. Since then, there have been a number of conferences held by the committee which is charged with the task of preparing the proposals to be submitted at the Geneva conference. At these conferences the representatives of the Institute have sat in and the Government has been present and the matter has been put in discussion.

Quite recently, the honorable member for Peterson saw me and said he was perturbed at reports that had come to his notice that there would be some restriction on the frequencies available to Australian radio amateurs, and that he would like some more information about it. He said either come and see me or write to me. After some discussion with him, I obtained for him a detailed statement of the proposals that would be taken into the conference. I am sure that he is insofar as they affected the amateurs. In giving him this document, I said, "I would like you to treat this as confidential. It is for your eyes only." I am sure that he will not look at it. I do not know whether I should be expected to regard it as confidential. I gave as my reason for saying that it be kept confidential that in our country it is the one in question, where there will be repre-

sentatives of practically all nations who will all come forward with different proposals. It is not considered good policy at the start to blazon the facts of the proposals, but such put forward. It is considered better to wait a while.

The normal procedure is that a country sends its official proposals forward, and they are collated with all the other proposals by some body or group charged with the task. Then the combined proposals are sent out to each of the member nations that will be represented at the conference. At that stage, of course, the proposals of a country are known. But it is considered undesirable to make any further information at the start. It was for this reason that I told the honorable member for Peterson that what I was happy to let him know was that we proposed to do—because there was no secret about it, and nothing to hide—I thought that the proposals should be regarded as confidential.

After having read the document, the honorable member said that there was some lack of understanding in his mind. He said, "I am not a technical man. I still do not understand the reasons for some of the things you are proposing to do. Can I get some more information?" I arranged, therefore, that he should attend a meeting of the committee responsible for all the proposals. I thought that I should refer again to that meeting later in my remarks—so that he would have the opportunity of discussing with the committee the details of the proposals that would be going forward. I arranged with the honorable member for Peterson that he attend the meeting of the full committee held on the 10th of last night. The past-president and the president of the Institute were in attendance. After this meeting the honorable member expressed himself as being very much satisfied with what had been done, but he said to me "I still am not happy, because I think there is some danger in the amateur being asked to give up some of what I want to be able to use this information you have given me as confidential in order that I may do my best to look after the interests of the amateurs."

At that stage, the information had gone to the co-ordinating body in Geneva. Therefore, the reason which applied previously regarding the confidential nature of the proposal was not then nearly so strong, so I said to him, "All right, go ahead." If I had not said that, probably this debate would not have arisen in this House, because the honorable member on the basis of the information which I made available to the honorable member for Peterson, and which he, in turn, made available to the members of the Institute, of Australia. That is why honorable members have got their telegrams. Do you wonder, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that I am not going to discuss the confidential information? I fail to see any evidence of reluctance or any evidence of secrecy in these matters that have been referred to, not by the honorable member, but by a gentleman who has a personal interest and writes about us from time to time in some of the newspapers.

**MR. HAMILTON.—**Is he member of Parliament?

**MR. DAVIDSON.—**No, but we see him about the place quite a bit. Now, having disposed of that little aspect of the matter I want to go on to what I think is the main point, which is the major points that have been put forward by the honorable member for Peterson. I hope that I will not regard this as being referring to him so often I am not just picking on him. He put forward the major arguments on behalf of the amateurs. He first of all, expressed a fear that the Government had said that one of these fine days Australia would wake up and find that it was committed, as a result of this conference, by an international agreement concerning the allocation of radio frequencies channels throughout the world, and Australia's use of those frequencies, without the knowledge of the Government, and without the knowledge of the Parliament, and without the knowledge of the people. That was a very extravagant statement.

**MR. FOLLARD.—**Not necessarily.

**MR. DAVIDSON.—**I think it was a very extravagant statement. It is a matter of some size. I shall outline the procedure to the House—how the use of this spectrum is determined, not only internationally but in Australia, and, what I think is the main point, over this highly technical matter. It must be realised that this is an extremely technical matter to which no one in this House is competent to discuss. I am not talking about it in terms of kilocycles and megacycles, channels and bands. There is proper supervision over the operation of the radio, and it is because the work under the general instruction as to the policy of the Government.

There is, first of all, a body known as the Telecommunications Advisory Committee. This is a high-level body, consisting of representatives of the Government, the allocation of frequencies, and under it works the Frequency Allocation Committee which does the actual work of the committee. The allocation of frequencies, and how they should be apportioned between all the claimants. It is the function of the Postmaster-General's Department actually to do the work of the committee. The committee applies the particular frequencies they may use.

I am glad that the honorable member for Peterson has come into the House. He referred quite a bit to the action of the Postal Department. I know that he will agree with me when I say that the Postal Department, the Hon. member's department is actually implementing determinations made on behalf of the Government by the committee to which I have referred. Any such allocation by the Postmaster-General's Department is subject to the general supervision of the Minister in charge of the department.

As an example of what we do from time to time to ensure that a tab is kept on what is developing—because, in this field developments are very rapid—the committee, the Hon. member of my first acts after taking over the portfolio in 1936 was to provide for a complete review of the use of the spectrum in Australia. This was done by the committee, the Hon. member, which undertook a thorough review to see whether there was any case of the interference of any of the frequencies of any bands or frequencies in the spectrum. After the investigation, the committee submitted a complete report to the Government—and was considered by the Cabinet—and recommended that for the present no alteration of the allocations then existing be made. But it was recommended that the Government should steady progress and the increasing demands in this field it would be desirable that a further review be carried out in three years' time. That means that the next time that a further review should be made this year, 1940.

There has not yet been such a further review, because a couple of months ago I reported to the Cabinet that I intended that the committee would deal with this matter would be held in the second half of the year. I submitted that undoubtedly there would be certain rapid developments in the field, and I have to consider whether or not we would adopt them—that might have some bearing on our own internal allocation. Therefore, I said, I would like to have a further review of the use of frequencies in Australia until after we had received the report of the international conference. I am sure that I cite this as showing that any suggestion that things can happen of which the Government knows nothing and over which it has no supervisory power is not soundly based.

What is going to happen with regard to the recommendations when they are finally received? As I have said, the proposals have been given to the International Telecommunications Union at Geneva. They have just been co-ordinated and are being sent back to the countries concerned. The conference will take place. The conference will break up into a large number of committees to consider various proposals that have been put forward, and after the deliberation decisions will be taken. Our representative will come back and a report will be presented to the Government. The committee will be of policy and with matters of administration. Matters of policy will have to be referred to the Government for ratification. It is quite clear that the Government will be required to effect some instrument of ratification on some of the proposals, if we agree with them, and others will be referred to the Government for consideration. The Government will have to be made to the Department of External Affairs, which is very closely associated with the Department of External Affairs, suggestion that one day we shall wake up and find some agreement on our doorstep of which we know nothing is completely unfounded.

It is not a matter of the Government, but which I know is in his mind—it is a very real fear—and I have told him that it is a matter of some size. I think his fear is that as a result of what he has termed the "deliberations" of the use of frequencies to the amateurs of Australia, they will be slowly squeezed out. He fears that the Government will be pushed towards a way towards the door and that in a few years time the spectrum will become so crowded that they will be outside the door. I have said to him that I have told him that to me. I have told him quite plainly why I do not accept that viewpoint at all. Although I have said that, I am sure that the honorable member, as the responsible Minister who has given a lot of attention to this mat-

ter, I am prepared to give a complete denial of any attempt to squeeze out the amateurs of any service, and that the proposals of the Postals provide drastic reductions. As a matter of fact, Sir, as I shall attempt to show in a few minutes, it would not be a matter of reductions as to the rationalisation and allocation of existing frequencies.

May I say, in reply to statements that have been made by a number of honourable members about the committees concerned with this matter, that the Postmaster-General's Department has very real appreciation of the needs of amateurs to Australia and of the work that they do. I think it is correct that at least half the members of the Wireless Institute of Australia are amateurs. The Post Office. The chairman of the Frequency Allocation Sub-committee which I have mentioned is himself an amateur, and the Postmaster-General's Post Office acknowledge, readily and gladly, the valuable work that has been done by radio amateurs, not only in war, but also in peace, in times of emergency caused by floods, fires and similar disasters. We have a proper realisation of the valuable work done by radio amateurs and, for that reason alone, the department, as an operating body, would not tolerate any action which would eventually deprive Australia of the services which they provide for the people. I am sure that the honourable member for Paterson will acknowledge that at the conference held in Melbourne two weeks ago, which I have already mentioned, the Minister stated categorically, in reply to some remarks on the matter, that there was no intention to force the amateur out of the radio.

I have to point out that the committees concerned with this matter are giving effect to Government policy. The Government has a responsibility to provide the services which the services which demand them. For instance, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we have to provide frequencies for fixed and mobile radio services, for long distance and short distance radio services operated by bodies such as rural fire brigades. These bodies require frequencies. Honourable members on both sides of the House, and members of both parties, have already discussed with me the allocation of frequencies for rural fire brigades. The Overseas Telecommunications Commission has to provide frequencies for the national and commercial broadcasting services of course require frequencies. In addition, we have increasing calls from State and local governments for frequencies for police services, metropolitan fire brigades and ambulance services. All these are using radio and have to be provided with frequencies for their purposes. As honourable members will realise, these services are very important. We have a demand for frequencies for the Royal Australian Air Force and private industrial and commercial uses such as taxi-omb companies and fishing fleets. The last named, particularly, depend more and more on radio, not only for the control of the boats from their bases while at sea, but also for their safety in times of bad weather. We have to provide frequencies for radio services for doctors. Several doctors who will be able to combine in a radio service so that they may be called as they move about the country in large practices—nearly "electrolators".

So honourable members will see that I am not at all the person that some of them have made demands for frequencies—and here, I think, is where I differ from my friend, the honourable member for Paterson—we must push the argument for the allocation of frequencies, and it is necessary to have some rationalisation and, from time to time, to work out plans which will enable the department to meet the demands of all these various services, and that each gets its fair share of the frequencies available in the spectrum. There are various ways in which this may be done. There are various ways in which this may be done. The honourable member himself referred to the possibility of getting more channels on the one band. This is a matter which has been investigated and which will continue to be looked into. But I repeat that the need to provide frequencies for the various services does not mean that the amateurs will be ignored.

Let me deal briefly now with another aspect of the matter, Mr. Deputy-Speaker. I said that the allocation of frequencies and the reduction of frequency bands will be made. I should like to say, without going into a lot of detail, that the reduction of frequency bands is not a matter that should be understood—that the major proposals affecting Australian amateurs provide for only a few reductions, which I shall mention in a minute. The 3.5 to 3.7 megacycles band is to be reduced to 3.5 to 3.7 megacycles. The explanation given to me is that, at the Athens Conference, the band was allocated to 3.5 to 3.8 megacycles was allocated to amateur,

fixed and mobile services. The three were bracketed in that band. Australia does not have a mobile service, and I should like to say the proposal that we shall make to the conference of the International Telecommunications Union at Geneva is that the band be reduced down to 3.5 to 3.7 megacycles for the amateurs and to 3.7 to 3.8 megacycles for fixed and mobile services. For somewhat similar though not identical reasons, the band of 3.8 to 4.1 megacycles is to be reduced from 7 to 7.1 megacycles, and the 4.1 to 4.35 megacycles band is to be reduced to 4.1 to 4.35 megacycles. Apart from one or two other small reductions of the same kind, according to the information that I have received, there are no proposals for the alteration of any of the bands which are now allocated to amateur use and which provide considerable capacity for the expansion of the service.

MR. BIRNLEIGHCOMBE. What are the other bands that are affected?

MR. DAVIDSON.—I have not covered the full field for the reason, for one thing, that time is running out. It has been said that these proposals mean that Australian amateurs will have available to them not so wide a field as their American colleagues have. Actually, there is not much difference. In addition, we have to remember that there are 180,000 licensed amateurs in the United States of America, compared with 10,000 in Australia. I am not a professional, my limited knowledge of the technical aspects, that our amateurs are not badly off compared with those of the United States.

MR. FAIRHALL.—But they all work on the same band at the same time.

MR. DAVIDSON.—I am aware of that fact. Nevertheless, my advice—and it is the best advice—is that Australian radio amateurs do not identify by comparison with our American friends.

In conclusion, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I want to say that these proposals have been arrived at after a long and careful consideration of all the requirements of all the services by the Frequency Allocations Sub-committee, which, as I have stated here, is an expert advisory body. I am sure that the Minister is entitled to consider such matters. When the availability of bands to the amateurs was under consideration, the Telecommunications Institute of Australia took part in the discussions and I believe that their views were given reasonable weight. I am sure that the Minister is entitled to say that my advice is that following the meeting held in Melbourne, the honourable member for Paterson was good enough, at the time, to say that he was satisfied. I am sure he will correct me if I misrepresent him—to say that he had gained from the discussions a much better understanding of the difficulties associated with the various problems involved, and that he felt that those varied problems had been dealt with in a very realistic, business-like and sympathetic manner, which was aimed at making the best possible use in the various spheres of the frequencies available in the radio spectrum of the various bands of Australian radio. That is my belief, too.

I point out that our representatives will discuss these proposals and other very wide proposals with representatives of the other countries at the conference at Geneva. The Australian representatives will go into the discussions, with the background of the knowledge of the situation so that they will know generally where they are going. They will enter on the discussions with open minds. Furthermore, they will have with them the representatives of the Wireless Institute, who will be quite entitled to discuss with them at any time proposals that have come out of the conference and to assure that his representations will be given due weight in the consideration of the matters raised at the conference. I think that this will do more than an exceedingly good purpose by opening up the matter and giving honourable members an opportunity to express personal views. I think that the fears which have been expressed, and with which I have tried to deal are ill-founded. In view of the fact that the conference will be held in August, and that it will be conducted openly, I think that the fears of honourable members are certainly premature.

MR. FAIRHALL.—The Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson), in dealing with this matter, has said that he would like to see the conference called by the Frequency Allocation Sub-committee in Melbourne two or three weeks ago. I had stated that I had gained a better understanding of the situation, and I should like to explain, Sir, that the Minister has been wrongly informed in this matter. I learned nothing from the Minister that I understood very thoroughly, and always had, the

tremendous difficulties facing his department in solving this particular problem. Nevertheless, I learned nothing new from this conference. Nor did I say that the matter had been dealt with in a business like fashion. I said that I had a better understanding of the situation, this problem with a full sense of its public responsibilities, but that the members of the Frequency Allocation Sub-committee, representing the various countries, had a better understanding of the situation. I said that the frequencies in this country would be something more than human if they did not give to the various services, and that the Minister had priority than they gave to the amateurs whose frequencies they proposed to cut.

MR. REYNOLDS (Barion).—I join other honourable members who have expressed the hope that there will not be any interference with the services of the amateur, which has been established in amateur radio. Not only have they been of great assistance in times of stress, such as during floods, bushfires and wars, but so far as I know, they have also been in the vanguard of radio experimentation. If that is so, I hope that the Minister will keep that fact in mind when the decision that he has indicated is being made later in the year.

MR. BURY (Wentworth).—The whole House is indebted to the honourable member for Paterson (Mr. Fairhall) for directing the attention of the Parliament to, and being the cause of, having put before the House, the Minister of Australia intends to make at the forthcoming telecommunications conference. The matter which has been discussed in the House, and which the enthusiast has played a very big part in pushing forward the frontiers of the whole electronics industry. The existence of a large number of services, which are being developed at their hobby has pointed the way to many improvements that have subsequently been made. I am sure that the Minister will be able to provide during the war when those who had qualified in the field of amateur radio came into our country and played a very big part in developing the electronics industry, which served Australia so well during that period.

This is a case in which we have to be particularly careful that powerful bureaucracy, entrenched in the Postmaster-General's Department, and other bodies—commercial and government—do not take advantage of the situation in a small way who may one day well be the precursors of further improvements and new ideas in this very important industry. I hope that the Minister will be able to take care of this before bringing forward a policy that goes further than does the United States of America. The whole of the world is looking to Australia as a scale. It has more amateur radio operators and a very much larger broadcasting industry, involving many of the same problems, and has been able to find solutions to many of these problems. We must ensure that our own technicians in the Postal Department are not just looking for an easy way out instead of overcoming their technical problems and thus permitting much greater freedom to radio operators.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—12th MAY

MR. FAIRHALL (Paterson).—During the course of the supply debate last week, I had occasion to bring to the attention of the House several proposals which, in my opinion, would be of great benefit to the future interests of amateur radio operators in this country but which I believe also affect the national interest. Last Thursday the Postmaster-General (Mr. Davidson) made reply to my statement and in addition to the great misstatement which I felt obliged to correct at the time, there were several other misstatements in the Postmaster-General's address which I cannot let pass without attention. It might also be appropriate to draw attention to some endorsements in the Postmaster-General's speech of the course I have felt obliged to take in bringing this matter to public attention.

The Minister drew attention to some misconceptions which he thought existed in the minds of honourable members concerning telecommunications. He said that a number of people on both sides of the House, if the Minister believes that those telegrams do not indicate a wide public approval of the proposals, then the work that are doing in this country I think that he deserves himself and would be wise to pay a good deal of attention to what I think is a new and important matter. I think that which I for one had not expected on such a wide scale. The Minister said that he was somewhat hurt because I had accused him of reluctance in

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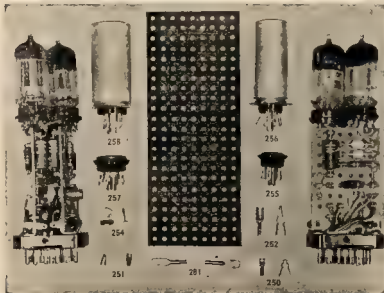
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particular the portions of the frequency bands concerned are most urgently required to improve conditions for fixed and mobile radio services such as Rural fire brigades, Overseas Telecommunication, and other services. The national government authorities, defence services, Australian national broadcasting services, Radio Australia, and private industrial and commercial services.

The proposals affecting Australian amateurs provide only for reduction of the existing band 14-15 megacycles to 15-17 megacycles, the 7-11.5 band to 7-11, and the 14-14.35 to 14-14.35 and the 50-60 band to 50-58. There are no proposals for the 2-30 band, and the 2-30 bands now allotted for amateur use and which provide considerable capacity for expansion of their activities.

Some of the bands now available to the amateur body, observations over a long period indicate that in general they are being worked below capacity, and even the proposals are carried at Geneva there will still be ample frequency space for existing and future amateurs to operate satisfactorily. It should be emphasized that in Australia there are approximately 3,500 licensed amateurs, whereas in the United States of America there are approximately 100,000 who practically make the same frequency space for their operations.

The proposals for revision of the frequency allocation table were only arriving at the most careful consideration of the requirements of all services by the Frequency Allocation Sub-committee, an expert advisory body which was set up to consider such matters. When the amateur bands were examined representatives of the Wireless Institute of Australia were invited to be present and were given full opportunity to study proposals and present their own views, which were given most sympathetic consideration.

## SUGGESTED ACTIONS

● Parliament adjourned on 14th May but it is not too late to contact your local Member. During recess, Members are in touch with Ministers and Ministers are still responsible for their Departments. Keep the matter before your local Member and urge others to do so.

● The recommendations of the Frequency Allocations Sub-Committee were given overseas before they were released in Australia. It is therefore in the interest of every Radio Amateur to send a copy of this issue to his overseas contacts. We have in this magazine the means of conveying to interested bodies in other countries the weight of political opinion backing the Amateur protests.

A copy of this issue may be obtained from the W.I.A., Victorian Division, P.O. Box 36, East Melbourne, or we will post a copy direct to any address you supply for 1/9 including postage.

The final proposals developed were arrived at in the best interests of all organizations which must make use of the spectrum. The final proposal is a compromise between the wishes of the amateur body in fostering international relationships and in rendering valuable assistance at times when normal communications are interrupted and there is a pressing appreciation of the need for retention of a reasonable and workable allocation of frequencies for their purposes. However, there are other and most important obligations to many other services which play a vital part in national development and operations, and the proposals for the revision of the frequency table to be discussed at Geneva are designed to promote the best interests of the country from an overall point of view.

It is emphasized that the claims of the amateur bodies were given full weight in arriving at the final proposals. The proposals will go to the Administrative Radio Conference with completely open minds and will have the advantage that the claims of all other nations with the object of arriving at the most equitable apportionment of the frequency spectrum.

In addition, the Postmaster-General has informed me that two of his officers, Messrs Skerrett and Pearson, have now arrived in Canberra. They are only too willing to meet any interested parties in this matter and to answer any questions put to them. If any honorable Senators wish to do so, I can arrange for them to meet the two officers.

**SENATOR WILLESSE.** My question to the Minister representing the Postmaster-General is supplementary to that asked by Senator O'Byrne. The statement that Senator Cooper has just read was full of departmental jargon—

**THE PRESIDENT.**—Order! Is the honorable Senator asking a question or is he criticizing the statement that has just been read?

**SENATOR WILLESSE.**—I was not criticizing.

**THE PRESIDENT.**—Order! The honorable Senator will ask his question.

**SENATOR WILLESSE.**—That is what I was going to ask, with your permission. Although the statement was rather wordy, it did not answer the question asked by Senator O'Byrne. That question related to the same matter about which Senator Hannan made a speech a few days ago. The sentiments expressed in that speech, incidentally, were shared by honorable Senators on both sides of the House.

To indicate to members the feelings of Amateurs in regard to the situation at the time these speeches were made in Canberra, some excerpts from a tape made by VK1GI, Arch Cox, and broadcast by VK2WI and VK5WI on 10/5/58, will be of interest. Herewith are portions of his tape.

I have no doubt that Amateur Radio in Australia is confronted by the worst crisis in its history.

It was no overstatement by our fellow member Alan Fairhall in Parliament a few days ago that the matters which, until last weekend, had been kept secret from most of us, and even from the Australian public and people, although revealed to others overseas, fore-shadow irreparable damage to our fellowship and ultimately threaten our very future on the air.

We are up against it as never before. One thing is certain: unless on these most-used bands are at stake. Time and circumstance are against us.

If any of you had any doubts about that, you are no realists if they were not decisively resolved by the defence of his Department which was really a confirmation and consolidation of the statement of the Minister which the Postmaster-General, Mr. Davidson, made to Parliament on Thursday (7/5/58).

The events of this week have splendidly shown that the record of Amateur Radio is better known, and the job it has done for Australia in peacetime and war is better understood and valued by outsiders from our ranks than I for one, and I think, probably most of you, had ever supposed.

It has been an immeasurably heartening experience to see a member after member, in each House of our national Parliament, from all parties and from all States, and from every class section of the community, rise in Parliament in our defence.

From that spectacle I am emboldened to hope that what members of Parliament do for me I think on this matter, Australians generally also know and think.

This is our greatest hope in withstanding the attack which has been made upon us by an authoritarian and entrenched, but not enlightened or liberal bureaucracy.

Up to the Minister, the Postmaster-General has been against us and those who have supported us are—

Mr. William Davidson from Victoria, Wood from Queensland, Laughlin from South Australia, Willesse from Western Australia, and Wright from Tasmania.

And in the House of Representatives our sponsors have been Professor Bland, and Messrs. Luckock, Reynolds, Bury, Daly and Fairhall from New South Wales, Sir John Latham and Mr. Bird from Victoria, Mr. Brimblecombe from Queensland, Mr. Jim Fraser from the Australian Capital Territory.

In telling you of this help I am brought to the most practical and constructive things I want to say to you.

But I do not say this because I have no charter from the President, and would accept none, to join with Divisional officers in a mere essay in rabble rousing.

The Minister: Is it not obvious from his statement that Australian radio amateurs will be affected to a greater degree than radio amateurs in any other country of the world, and particularly the United States of America, by the proposed cut in the frequency spectrum? Although we appreciate the opportunity to discuss the matter with the two officers, it is not possible, even at this late stage, in view of the technical nature of the problem, to give the Minister and the American officers the opportunity to discuss this matter with the departmental officers before the delegation goes to Geneva?

**SENATOR SIR WALTER COOPER.**—I understand that a representative of the association will attend the conference at Geneva, at our own expense. It is true that he will not have passed your vote in the House. But the Postmaster-General has made arrangements for him to have a full discussion with the delegates to the conference, so that he will be able to place before them the views of the amateur radio operators. As Senator Willesse apparently is very interested in this matter, I think the best thing he could do would be to have a discussion with the officers from the department, whom the Postmaster-General has so graciously invited to Australia, for the express purpose of speaking to members.

## AMATEUR REACTION

If you don't honestly believe that Amateur Radio would flourish if you had a really thick record of achievement in technical progress, in national defence, in humanitarian and emergency service, in international trade and international goodwill, and in standing, in simple, ordinary human decency of communion between man and man and nation and nation, as we would be sustaining, tune now to another channel.

But if you do believe that on record we have earned the place in the world we are wanting a raw deal, that we are entitled to a better one, come along and pull your weight. The first steps are simple but vitally important.

We have had a magnificent gesture of what I hope is only preliminary support this week. But it is only preliminary because the immense latent reservoir of goodwill so plainly willing to be tapped in this emergency has not yet been fully tapped.

That predominantly is the fault of those listening to me. It is so because you have not sought the help you are entitled to ask.

Each one of you who has not yet done so should telegraph immediately to his member of the House of Representatives and to at least one Senator from his State to urge Members to take the coming week actively to open the cut on our operating facilities confirmed by the Postmaster-General. To do this is your democratic right as a member of our Australian community.

Parliament will adjourn on Thursday, and it is likely that the meeting will be held in August, too, the I.T.U. meeting will be assembling in Geneva to decide your future. Write to your Member, write to your Member, but you call to him, and answer the counter claims. State your case as simply and as clearly as you can, and make it as strong as you can.

If, when the Parliamentary recess begins in a few days' time, you can call on your Member at his home for a personal interview, do so by all means.

Tell your friends about what is happening. Try to get the word out. Public opinion is the best ally we can hope to enlist now but we must be our own recruiting sergeant.

Write up all of you to read in your nearest public library the reports in this week's *Herald* from the Federal Parliament.

These are published elsewhere in this issue.—Editor.]

To give you the reassurance that an important strategy of the Parliamentary opposition, that the ever responsive nature of Parliamentary fair play has been aroused for us, and that a fund of support has been built upon which we should seek to build, I quote you the brief glimpse that my time will allow of what has been said for us in Parliament in the last few days.

[Arch VK1GU then gave pertinent extracts from various members' speeches in Parliament, which are given in full elsewhere in this issue.—Editor.]

You may have noticed that I have not mentioned the work of one man who has helped us. This is Alan Fairhall. I have not mentioned this to mention especially because, as all New South Wales members would expect, his work for us has been magnificent.

# MR. MAX HULL, M.H.R., THE AMATEURS OF AUSTRALIA

On Sunday morning, 17th May, VK-2WI (the W.I.A. New South Wales Divisional station) arranged an Australian wide coverage so that Mr. Alan Fairhall, M.H.R. (VK2KB), could give a talk to the Amateurs of Australia on events since the publication of the Proposal to curtail Amateur frequencies.

This was broadcast on the 7 Mc. band by VK2AWX and relayed by many other stations on the 14, 21 and 28 Mc. bands. Reports have indicated that his speech was received very well in all States of Australia, New Guinea, and New Zealand.

So that members who were unable to listen may know what was said, herewith is a copy of his excellent talk.

Good morning fellow Amateurs. The line-up for this morning is rather overwhelming, but I'll see what I can do to justify the efforts that have been made to gather an audience.

The first item on the agenda is the clear at the Geneva Conference of the I.T.U. is in full gallop and I thought it might be helpful to make a report on the general position up to this point where our own teams are working in the job, and if we are going to be successful it must be that way for the next few months, with everyone meeting everyone, throwing in everything they have to secure the greatest possible support for the Amateur cause. It is rather clear at the outset of this talk this morning that now the problem has moved into the political sphere, and becomes the spokesman only by virtue of being a duly licensed Amateur. Federal Parliament I have had a lot of assistance, and will get a lot of assistance; and the House will not want to go to the other side of the House, I'm happy to say, and in both Houses of Parliament.

While the criticism of Amateurs and the I.T.U. in Parliament a couple of weeks ago there was unexpected and powerful support from many quarters, perhaps most notably, from the Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Jim Fraser, the member for the A.C.T., and more recently from Mr. Ald. Jones, the member for the Northern Territory. This support has been carried into the Labor Party Caucus, and while I was taking the matter into the Government Party room on 14th March, I was met with enthusiastic support for the proposition that the P.M.G. Department should withdraw, review and re-draft the present Geneva Proposal.

By now, I think everybody will be aware of the general routine and I repeat it only to emphasise one or two points which I'm happy to say might bring a little comfort to them. The I.T.U. Conference will begin at Geneva at the end of August. To the best of my knowledge, as far as we are concerned, its main job will be to carve up the frequency spectrum amongst the increasing number of Services who want space. The normal scheme is that in March the various countries, and other countries, went abroad to Geneva. Towards the end of this month we would expect them to return, to Australia, and give a signature in the form of a Budget of Proposals. The P.M.G. Department will then do its homework on this in preparation for the Conference later this year.

Now the points which I think may bring comfort are, firstly, that what has gone abroad is not supported by the Government, and I find no support at the Conference and there will be no re-arrangement and, I would hope, will be accepted. The second point is that the present position is that the Australian delegation is going over to put forward a proposal for reductions in our 40, 40, 20 and 5 metre bands, and proposals for the reduction of other countries who may produce similar proposals for reductions. Our part is therefore to change the attitude of the Government, and to ensure that the delegation goes away with a new charter—that of preserving our bands and opposing any proposal for reductions put forward by others. I think we might retire for a few words of quiet prayer on that one. The second piece of comfort I think arises from the fact that the Government, despite the Proposal being sent away, their thoughts are still quite flexible. They may change their view, perhaps to a more realistic one, and if general agreement is to be reached at Geneva there will be need for some flexibility in the brief which the delegation takes to the

Conference. It will be John Moyle's difficult, but I hope not unrewarding task, to see that flexibility is written for the Amateurs, and of course our high hopes go with him.

The work on this exercise of preserving our frequencies has been going on since when the P.M.G. agreed to accredit a W.I.A. observer to the Geneva delegation. Round about mid year, Max Hull, our Federal President of the W.I.A., went to Canberra, and with Senator George Hannan of Victoria, who I think had introduced the proposal originally, we had a little discussion of a good deal of the matter. The Minister who was most co-operative, I ought to point out I think that the appointment of a delegate or an observer to go with a delegation was a departure from precedent of very great value to us. Anyhow I took the opportunity of assuring Max Hull, the Federal President, that at the time would do what I could to supplement the Institute's own efforts, since it was quite clear that the incident must get into the political field. Since then I've been in constant touch with the Federal President Max Hull, and with John Moyle to keep him advised as to what was going on.

On one occasion I am bound to say that I was heartened by an appreciation of the Federal President and Federal Executive that anything so far as the Institute was concerned, by undue reference to the P.M.G. Department merely because they are the licensing authorities, but I think I can say that I have got no fear that we might ruin good relations between the Institute and the P.M.G. Department by standing up in defence of what we are the Institute's own efforts can give you the assurance that the Department and the Government understands very well and are determined to do what we can do to whatever we can do to cultivate public support for the quite reasonable case we have to submit; so the win or lose in the battle for frequency channels will not be decided at court. The fact is that the Amateurs and the P.M.G. Department are having a difference of opinion, and the difference is in the national interest of Amateurs and commercial interests having a need for frequency channels.

We were somewhat in the dark in the early stages of the matter, and I think the proposals for frequency re-arrangement had gone forward. I sought from the Minister the right to talk to him, and he was most helpful—particularly to the W.I.A. It took some little time but the story was eventually released and was given in this broadcast here and in Victoria.

Meanwhile the P.M.G. had been good enough to arrange for myself and Max Hull, together with Bill Mitchell, to attend a preliminary meeting of the P.A.S.C. This was done, I'm sure, in the hope of convincing us that the right and proper thing was being done well, and we met the committee in an all-morning session and came away without being convinced, except for one thing: that was in the broad scheme of things, Amateur Radio enjoyed only a low priority in Departmental thinking. Of course it's from this fact that our present unhappiness arises.

Following publication of the proposed frequency cuts, I made a statement in the Parliament a couple of weeks ago which met with very good response. I think it was a surprise to us to support us, a considerable number of Amateurs contacted their local members by letter, phone and personally to seek their support, and I think I should mention that I sent telegrams myself, for which I hasten to thank you but to assure you that I don't really need the support of my local members. I don't acknowledge them by mail because you will agree that the effort can be put to better advantage.

Now since all this, there has been some quite worthwhile developments. First of all the Government has noted the importance of the issue, and has widespread support. On Wednesday last the Acting Prime Minister, the Right Hon. John McEwen, agreed that the Amateurs were a very important section of the Federal Cabinet, which means that our representation has thus far been quite successful. Then again last week, the P.M.G. arranged for two senior officers of the Department to meet with the matter, Mr. Skerrett (Deputy Director) and Mr. Pearson (of the Radio Branch) and I think I should mention that this was a question period with members on both sides of the Parliament. The meetings were well attended, and I think I should mention, and there for the moment the matter stands.

I doubt if any Amateur doesn't realise the difficulty facing the P.M.G. Department in

finding frequencies for the increasing commercial applications. It is clear that our priority is being pushed down the list, and we are not getting higher priority demands. But it is quite easy to regard the Amateur as using valuable frequencies, and to be satisfied with our low priority as against fixed and mobile services because these are the people who want our 40 and 5 metre space, whilst international broadcasting is wanting space of our 40 metre band, and long distance communication services our 20 metre space.

We have therefore put forward in the strongest terms to the Minister for External Affairs an internationally recognised Service with bands reserved for its use by international agreement. We put forward what I think may be a conservative plan that the availability of the Amateur body in 1939 put this country's defence signals six months ahead, and that sort of service is beyond doubt. It is Australia to become a technically efficient nation we can't afford to destroy the opportunities for self training and experience in electronics which our Amateur privileges provide. You can no doubt think of a dozen more reasons and I sincerely hope you will and that you will pass them on.

The P.M.G. Department claims that our bands are not fully occupied and that we will not be inconvenienced by the proposed reductions. I think I can say that I will be the answer to that. I pointed out that the misery of having to earn a living kept Amateurs off the air for very large parts of the day and understand there is a rough sort of prohibition against vee wheels in Amateur bands. Also some of our bands have already been cut in stretches of our bands although we have to admit that the getting rid of these stations, belonging to people who are not members of the I.T.U. who take their responsibilities too lightly, is not an easy one at all.

I think it is necessary to fix in the public mind that the exchange of signals at home and abroad is going to be affected by the structure; if bandwidth is going to be reduced, over crowding is going to be produced and this will be a very serious matter. This sort of situation will kill Amateur Radio without the necessity of taking away the whole of our present frequency allocation.

Now what has been gained and where do we go from here? The guards to this point include the evidence of widespread recognition of the value of Amateur Radio and expressions of good will, and I think I can say that we expected. Secondly, we have an assurance that there is some flexibility in the official attitude. Thirdly, is the fact that instead of the Proposal being looked at only at the Departmental level, they are now to have Cabinet scrutiny. Finally, and this I think is the most important point, members of Parliament at the meeting with our post officers last week were given an assurance that we in Australia will retain the basic allocated at Geneva for our use whilst ours by local opinion. In other words if Geneva says, the status quo in Australia remains.

These gains dictate the action from here on. I think your member of Parliament could be the most helpful and I suggest that you write to him, see him, invite him to your club—if very busy, write him a letter, and let him know possible his interest. It wouldn't be bad idea to run over the bands for him. Let him see how tough things are already. Remember that we have his interest and we will have his sympathy. Show him how essential Amateurs are to the defence of this country, to its science, and industry. Ask him to take what steps he can to convey these views to the Government, and urge the retention of Amateur Radio and consideration of the present Geneva Proposal.

Finally chaps, because I know I am talking to you, your member of Parliament could be the most helpful and I suggest that you write to him, see him, invite him to your club—if very busy, write him a letter, and let him know possible his interest. It wouldn't be bad idea to run over the bands for him. Let him see how tough things are already. Remember that we have his interest and we will have his sympathy. Show him how essential Amateurs are to the defence of this country, to its science, and industry. Ask him to take what steps he can to convey these views to the Government, and urge the retention of Amateur Radio and consideration of the present Geneva Proposal.

# A Two-Stage Transistor Xmitter

A. G. SMITH,\* VK3AN

Possibly some of the readers of this article have, like the writer, regarded Transistors with some apprehension, however the circuit described here is simple and seems to perform quite well with a minimum amount of trouble.

Basically the transmitter consists of a crystal oscillator operating on 7 Mc. plus an amplifier operating at the same frequency. The transistors used seem to be readily available and operate at this frequency quite successfully.

The original idea of the project was to use the unit as a handy-talkie transmitter and receiver. The receiver has been completed for some time now, but the handy-talkie has not eventuated due to some success using the transmitter on the normal 7 Mc. dipole.

The little rig has been copied on c.w. at RST 549 in Adelaide with Ted VK5JE providing the necessary ear strain in that State, and VK7MX and VK7MZ on the Apple Isle. These QSO's were not established with the transistor rig, but were part of a contact using the QRO ten-watt transmitter.

However, contact was established and maintained with Chf VK3AJA at Stratford with sigs at RST 449. Chf did hear and copy the little rig on phone during a later QSO with him.

The unit was constructed on perforated paxolin strips using both sides for mounting components; coil formers are 3" diameter polystyrene, and trimmers 3-55 pF. mica ceramic.

Modulation was accomplished by using a carbon microphone with 1.5 volts applied and coupling via a small speaker transformer in the negative 8v line to the p.a. collector. The ratio of the transformer was not critical.

The coupling system to the antenna did present some difficulties and after trying many methods, the system as shown proved most successful.

A sensitive field strength meter was used to tune the LC circuits to resonance. The meter used was 0-50  $\mu$ A. and full scale plus readings were easily obtainable close to the resonant circuits. When the transmitter is coupled to the antenna, the meter was used to

peak the circuits by closely coupling to the feedline

A receiver was constructed in a similar manner using an OC44 as regenerative detector and an OC71 as audio amplifier. W6's on c.w. were copied using the 7 Mc. dipole, but with an end loaded whip approx. 4 feet long signals were down and only locals with RS 59 signals could be heard.

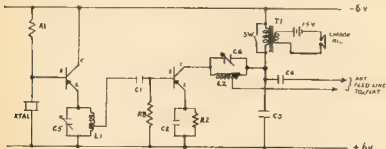


The transmitter seems to suffer the same fate using the whip antenna, but as experiments had temporarily ceased along these lines, the possibilities are not known as yet.

In conclusion I would like to thank all the gents who strained their ears and receivers trying to sort the milliwatt signals out of the noise level, but believe me, it is interesting and astounding just how QRPP will make itself heard.

Please try it fellows, and lots of luck.

\*33 Field Avenue, Edithvale, Vic.



C1—300 pF  
C2—0.01  $\mu$ F  
C3—0.001  $\mu$ F  
C4—100 pF  
C5, C6—3-55 pF trimmer  
R1—250K ohms,  $\frac{1}{4}$  watt  
R2—220 ohms,  $\frac{1}{4}$  watt  
R3—2K ohms,  $\frac{1}{4}$  watt  
Transistors—Two OC44.

L1, L2—60 turns tapped at 15 turns, close wound with 34 s.w.g. enamel, formers  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch polystyrene.  
Xtal—7 Mc. band.  
Sw—For c.w.  
T1 Small Speaker Transformer.  
L1 and C5 to resonate at approx. 6.5 Mc. for large "XC" at xtal frequency.  
For c.w., key in either h.t. battery lead.

## PREDICTION CHART, JUNE '59

No. 1. AUSTRALIA — W. EUROPE S.R. No.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
GMT				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — W. EUROPE L.R.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — MEDITERRANEAN		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — N.W. U.S.A.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — N.E. U.S.A. S.R.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — N.E. U.S.A. L.R.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — CENTRAL AMERICA		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — S. AFRICA		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
E. AUSTRALIA — FAR EAST		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
W. AUSTRALIA — W. EUROPE		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
W. AUSTRALIA — N.W. U.S.A.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
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				14	
				7	
W. AUSTRALIA — N.E. U.S.A.		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
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				14	
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W. AUSTRALIA — S. AFRICA		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	
W. AUSTRALIA — FAR EAST		0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24		45	
				20	
				21	
				14	
				7	



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# Remembrance Day Contest, 1959

The Federal Contest Committee of the Wireless Institute of Australia wishes all Australian Amateurs and Short Wave Listeners to participate in the Annual Contest which is held to perpetuate the memory of those Australian Amateurs who gave their lives for their Country during World War II. It is held on the week-end nearest to 15th August, the date on which hostilities ceased in the S.W.P.A.

A handsome perpetual trophy is awarded annually for competition between States inscribed with the names of those who made the supreme sacrifice, and so perpetuating their memory throughout Amateur Radio in Australia.

The name of the winning Division each year is also inscribed on the Trophy. In addition, the winning Division will receive a suitably inscribed framed photograph of the Trophy.

## Objects

Amateurs in each Call Area (this includes those in Australian Mandated Territories and Australian Antarctica) will endeavour to contact Amateurs in all other Call Areas (VK1 and VK2 are considered to be one Call Area).

## Date of Contest

15th-16th August, 1959.

## Duration

From 1800 hours E.A.S.T. 15th August, 1959, to 1759 hours E.A.S.T. on 16th August, 1959. A period of 15 minutes silence will be observed by all stations on 15th August, immediately prior to the start of the Contest when an appropriate broadcast will be made from VK3WIA and relayed by the Divisional Stations.

## RULES

1. There shall be four main sections to the Contest:

- (a) Transmitting phone.
- (b) Transmitting c.w.
- (c) Receiving phone.
- (d) Receiving c.w.

2. All Australian Amateurs may enter the Contest whether their stations are fixed, portable or mobile, but only members of the W.I.A. are eligible for awards. Portable/mobile operation is defined as transmitting and/or receiving equipment which is not connected to any private or public power mains or plant.

3. All Amateur frequency bands may be used, but no cross-band operation is permitted.

4. Amateurs may operate on both phone and c.w. during the Contest (e.g. phone to phone, c.w. to c.w., or phone to c.w. and vice versa), but may sub-

mit an entry for only one of the above sections listed in Rule 1.

An Open log will be one in which points are claimed for both phone and c.w. transmissions.

A Contestant transmitting on phone but receiving on c.w. may still enter for the phone section (and vice versa). Refer to Rule 11 concerning entry in Logs.

5. Only one contact per station per band is allowed and arranging schedules for contacts on other bands is not permitted.

6. Only one licensed Amateur is permitted to operate any one station under the owner's call sign. Should two or more operate any particular station, each will be considered a contestant and must submit a separate log under his own call sign.

Contestants operating stations other than their own shall be referred to, for the purpose of these rules, as "substitute operators." Their operating procedure will be as follows.

**Phone contacts.** Substitute operators will call "CQ Remembrance Day" followed by the call sign of the station they are operating, and the word "log" followed by their own call sign.

**C.w. contacts.** Substitute operators will call "CQ RD de" followed by the group call sign comprising the call sign of the station they are operating, an oblique stroke, and their own call sign.

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Factory Reps.: R. H. Cunningham P/L, 16 Angus St., Meadowbank. Available from all Leading Sydney Distributors.

Contestants receiving signals from a substitute operator will qualify for points by recording the call of the substitute operator only.

7. Entrants must operate within the terms of their licenses.

8. **Cyphers:** Before points may be claimed for a contact, serial numbers must be exchanged and acknowledged. The serial number of five or six figures will be made up of the RS (telephony) or RST (c.w.) reports plus three figures which may begin with any number between, or including 001 and 100 for the first contact and which will increase in value by one for each successive contact, e.g. if the number chosen for the first contact is 053, then for the second contact the number must be 054, for the third 055 and so on. If any contestant reaches 999, he will start again with 001.

9. **Entries** must be set out as shown in the example, using only one side of the paper. Entries must be postmarked not later than 8th September, 1959, and addressed to the Federal Contest Committee, W.I.A., Box 3118 G.P.O., Hobart, Tasmania.

10. **Scoring** will be based on the table shown.

#### SCORING TABLE

To

	VK0	VK1-2	VK3	VK4	VK5	VK6	VK7	VK9
VK0	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
VK1-2	6	1	3	3	5	4	6	6
VK3	6	1	1	3	2	5	4	6
VK4	6	1	2	1	3	5	4	6
VK5	6	2	1	3	1	5	4	6
VK6	6	1	2	4	3	1	5	6
VK7	6	2	1	4	3	5	1	6
VK9	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	1

**Note.**—Read table from left to right for points for the various call areas.

In addition, a bonus of 25 points may be claimed for the first contact in each call area on 50 Mc. or above

11. **Logs:** All logs shall be set out as in the example shown and in addition will carry a front sheet showing the following information:

Name ..... Section  
Address ..... Call Sign  
Claimed Score

**Declaration:** I hereby certify that I have operated in accordance with the rules and spirit of the Contest

Signed  
Date

All contacts made during the Contest must be shown in the log submitted (see Rule 4).

#### EXAMPLE OF TRANSMITTING LOG

Date/ Time E.A.S.T.	Band	Emis- sion	Call Sign	RST/NR Sent	RST/NR Rcvd.	V.h.f. Bonus	Points Claim.	Blank
Aug '59								
15 1802	7Mc.		VK3CU	39001	VK3XU	—	1	
15 1805	"		VK3RU	56004	VK3DB	—	5	
16 1113	80		VK6RZ	47135	VK6QR	25	3	

Note.—Standard W.I.A. Log Sheets can be used to follow the above form.

12. The right is reserved to disqualify any entrant who, during the Contest, has not observed regulations or who has consistently departed from the accepted code of operating ethics.

13. The ruling of the Federal Contest Committee of the W.I.A. will be final. No dispute will be entered into.

14. **Awards:** Certificates will be awarded to the winners of the phone, c.w., open, and receiving sections in each call area (Northern Territory will count as a separate call area). There will be no outright winner for Australia. Further Certificates may be awarded at the discretion of the Contest Committee.

The State to which the Perpetual Trophy will be awarded shall be determined in the following way:

To the average of the top six logs shall be added a bonus arrived at by adding to this average, the ratio of logs entered to State licences, multiplied by the total points from all entries.

**Example:**

Average of the top six logs +  
(Logs Entered × Total of Points)  
(State Licences from all Entrants)  
Acceptable logs shall show at least five valid contacts.

The trophy shall be forwarded to the winning State in its container and will be held by that State for a period of 12 months.

#### RECEIVING SECTION

1. The rules are the same as for transmitting and is open to all Short Wave Listeners in Australia. No transmitting Station may enter this section.

2. Contest times and logging of stations on each band are as for transmitting.

3. To count for points, logs will take the same form as for transmitting logs. Logs must show the call sign of the station heard (instead of worked), the serial number sent by it and the call sign of the station being called. The scoring table to be used is the same as that used for transmitting and points must be claimed on the basis of the State in which the receiving station is located. A sample log is given to clarify the position. It is not sufficient to log a station calling CQ.

4. A station heard may be logged only once for each band.

5. **Awards:** Certificates will be awarded to the highest scorer in each call area. Further certificates may be awarded at the discretion of the Federal Contest Committee.

#### EXAMPLE OF RECEIVING LOG—VICTORIAN S.W.L.

Date/ Time E.A.S.T.	Band	CW Sign Heard	RST/NR Sent	Station Called	V.h.f. Bonus	Points Claim.	Blank
Aug '59							
15 1802	7Mc.	VK3CU	39001	VK3XU	—	1	
15 1805	"	VK3RU	56004	VK3DB	—	5	
16 1113	80	VK6RZ	47135	VK6QR	25	3	

Note.—Standard W.I.A. Log Sheets can be used to follow the above form.

## BOOK REVIEW

### A.R.R.L. SINGLE SIDEBAND HANDBOOK

The second edition of A.R.R.L. Single Sideband Handbook follows the pattern of its predecessor. It consists of articles which have appeared previously in "QST" and which cover the whole gamut of Amateur s.b.—its history, its basic principles, and practical construction articles on all types of equipment. Its treatment of the basic principles is very full and more than adequate for Amateur requirements. This portion of the book is recommended to all who are interested in Amateur Radio telephony in any form.

Among the constructional articles figure "Cheap and Easy Sideband" by W2EWL—almost a standard for home-built phasing rigs.

"A Sideband Package" by W2EU—a full exposition of a filter rig; and the Monomatch Mark II. For this last article alone the book is well worth having. Accessories for use in Amateur s.b. are well covered.

The book is printed in the well known "QST" format which makes it durable, easy to read and nice to handle—a not-unimportant point with a book.

This handbook is a must in s.b. Amateurs' libraries and is to be considered as a standard in the same light as its parent A.R.R.L. Radio Amateur's Handbook.

Publisher, American Radio Relay League. Australian price 24/-, plus 1/- postage. Our copy from Technical Book and Magazine Co., 295 Swanston St., Melbourne, and McGill's Authorised Newsagency, 183 Elizabeth St., Melbourne.

#### QUEENSLAND DIVISION, W.I.A.

THE 1959 CENTENARY YEAR

PALM BEACH

### CONVENTION

13th, 14th, and 15th JUNE

QTH: National Fitness Camp,

Palm Beach, Gold Coast, Qld.

Cost: Week-end £2/8/0 full board; registration 15/- per family unit. Day Trippers 8/- per meal; registration 5/- per day.

Features: Bob Campbell Memorial Contest, 7 Mc. Scrambles, 2 Mc. Te. Hunt, Blindfold Hunts; Barbecues, excellent meals, Films, Auctions.

VK4WV will also operate continuously from the Convention as part of the Centenary Year Celebrations. Special QSL cards will be awarded.

For further details, listen to VK4WV Sunday morning broadcasts.

# THE

**Frank P. O'Dwyer, VK3OF**  
150 Thomas Street,  
Hampton, Vic.

Continued from page 10. With fewer DX openings marked the last month. The peak was reached on May 2 at 1145 when Ian 8ALZ, QSO'd KE1PU at 80. About six 3X sigs were heard by the gang during the brief opening. Further north, 2ADE opened XE the same day. Chas. 2ADE hooked VFTQQ on Apr. 29. VK3LJ is active and caught on 10 opening. An excellent VFT/JA opening 2145-2200 on Apr. 29, all sigs. B9 preceded by a VK3/JA opening at 2030. In VK3 a couple of the regulars were missing and openings listed are JAL, 3, 4 on Apr. 1. VK7ZK and a lot of VK3 on Apr. 8 at 2200, followed by JAS and 8 on the 19th.—3OF.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Greetings, chaps, from your new scribe, Bob 2ASZ. At the April meeting 35 members were present to have a go at Winchy 30A after some figures and antennas at v.h.f. Election of officers for 1959 resulted in John 2ZAV taking the chair, Phil 2BZX vice-chairman, Kevin 2ZPZ secretary, and committee members Bob 2ASZ, Jim 2ZCW, and Keith 2ZJK. The chairman's Trophy for maximum points scored in all contests over 1958 goes to Dick 2ZCF and will be presented at the May meeting. Autumn Field Day on 12/4/59 produced a great amount of activity on 2 m. At the April Night Fox Hunt, 23/4/59 Keith 2ZJK found a spot near the oil storage tanks on Parramatta River, said tanks causing many false bearings. He was found in 22 mins. by Jim 2ZCW. Several V.h.f. Group members were at Urunga including 2PM who cleaned up the 40 m scramble. Congrats, Winchy 30A, on winning the 1958-59 Adams' trophy for your article to "A.R." on Overtone Oscillators.

The Midwinter Contest will be held on 25th and 26th July, 1959. Form not decided as yet.—2ASZ.

## VICTORIA

An incomplete tally of openings on 80 Mc. for the month closed—Apr. 1st, JA 2nd, ZL 7th and 8th, JA; 9th, VK3 and 4; 10th, VK3 heard; 11th, JA; 12th, the VK3s and JA; 14th, JA; 15th, 8XK heard; 19th, JA; May 2nd, XE worked.—3OF.

## QUEENSLAND

Southern—JA's have been heard by most Brisbane gang this month. There have been some good breakthroughs. Max 4HD has had a number of contacts with KHE's, W's, also KA-TAX Gordon 4ZBI and other Brisbane boys have had their share of JA's as well as VK3 and VK5 during the Sporadic F opening on April 12. John 4PU worked KO 8RO. JA sigs also in on FL quite a good day for the Brisbane gang 4ZBI. Apr. 14 at 2145, worked Ron 5NKK. Ron was hearing "Yankee Voices" on the band. The end of the month brought the JA's in again—4ZBI.

Northern—On Apr. 17 the YL stations in Japan had a Field Day and most were intent on working VK stations. 4ZBE on May 8 had his No. 1,000 contact with JA since the band opened on Feb. 8. His QSL has arrived from George V8BCJ. DX is still much the same. New stations in Japan are K4AMZ and KA-TAX. Also on the band is W8KUY/MM, some where in the China Sea, c.w. only. VU3RM is still active on 8. On May 2 band opened up and VK3's and 8XK were worked. 8XK worked 8BE. Quite a good bit of back scatter going on, have heard and called 8XK, 4ZBJ, 4ZBI and VK3M. Main trouble in 80 was to be the lack of use of proper antenna. 2ZSISW was on the air every hour on the hour looking for VKs. Activity in 80 and KGE areas will increase shortly—4ZBE.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The VK3's were in on Apr. 8. On 10th, JA's were heard shortly after noon. The 20th, a good opening to JAL, 2, 3 and 7. The 28th again to VK3 and 4, then on May 4 JA again. Doug 8XK is new on the band. Mobiles are active on 8 m. with Barry 3ZBZ at the Hummocks (approx. 20 miles out) worked by all. The last Fox Hunt, Hughie 3AV won both hunts. The Apr. 28 V.h.f. meeting discussed W.T.C.E.N., main points 50 Mc. mobiles in the field and the installation of fixed tx and rx at the fighting headquarters. Anyone with mobile gear on 30 or 35 Mc. is invited to get in touch with John 8XK. 338 Mc. has been very active—3ZAW.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

During past two months JA openings have occurred almost daily into all parts of Japan on 50 Mc.: very strong sigs. In many cases, 2/5/59 saw an opening into VK3 when 8BO and 8BE worked 8XK. Same afternoon 8BO heard what he thinks was a VK2. Other items of interest include the re-appearance of f.m. nets on 48.5 and 49.9, the latter Malay and English and the former American.

DUIGF has reported hearing VK3BE at 2100 on 16/4/59. We believe that 10F is calling each night with beam south. Also attempting to work us is VU3RM, who has been successful in working V58 and KR8.

The beacon VK3VF has justified itself already in securing for us the V23 contact. Believe Russ heard the beacon the previous week-end and called at that time (8 a.m.) until he made the grade. A further report was received from

a W6 (that raised a hearty cheer in VK3!!). Unfortunately the info. was incomplete and it turned out that the W6 was NM near Okinawa!! Again this was early in the morning.—8BE.

## TASMANIA

3 metres on Apr. 28 was exceptional. Peter 7PZ used 1.5 signal as a guide. 7PZ worked around the band at 2050 but n.g. At 2125 another check brought up 8BC (just signing off with a VK3). A call, an answer, signals 5 and 8 such way. Col. 7LZ was phoned to get on and they exchanged 559 reports. The distance, approx. 630 miles 7LZ/5BC, 600 miles 7PZ/8BC. 7PZ and 7LZ, then worked the VK3s, both city and country. The Melbourne stations were very poor. 3ZDE was worked, only that day he received his call sign. What a start. Conditions were still good at 2345. The location appeared to break up the next day, the weather rap for the day was like one out of the book.



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### AUSTRALIAN DXCC AWARD

Editor "A.R.", Dear Sir,

I have read with interest the various correspondence appearing in your columns relative to the details and objectives of the above Award. May I take up some of your valuable space to place before your readers some pertinent facts.

1. The list of countries published in "QST" for January 1959 reads: "Partial A.R.R.L. Countries List for your convenience in the 1959 DX Contest".

(a) From the above we may deduce that there are many more countries to be added.

(b) Since there is no reference to the fact that for A.R.R.L. DXCC purposes, this is the official list, we may conclude that it is only a guide and the official list, if it exists, is a separate flexible list depending on the activities of the pressure groups within the A.R.R.L.

2. Without going into too much detail, the following glaring idiosyncrasies appear in the list.

(a) K8B Baker, Howland and American Phoenix Islands. Firstly, Baker Island is British. Howland Island is American and there is no American Phoenix Islands. Also, the possibility of this being Enderby Island, Canton Island, one of the group, is in British Phoenix and normally carries a VRI prefix, however, it is listed as being in this island signing with a K8B prefix because the island is a condominium. According to the A.R.R.L. this island should be fair to both countries. This is utter nonsense since the same rule does not apply to the FUS/YJ combination.

(b) Gold Coast, ZGDI changed its name to Ghana with a 9G1 prefix, so if you worked Gold Coast, and after the change you worked the same station, again, you counted two countries by A.R.R.L. standards. Again sheer nonsense.

(c) Malaysia, Sarawak, Singapore, Ceylon and India have undergone political changes similar to that of Ghana, but they have not been re-classified as has Ghana. WHY?

(d) There have been the classic demarcations of the Wundwin and seaward Islands and a multitude of separate countries after they had become Federated.

There are but a few of the stupidities of the A.R.R.L. Partial List for the 1959 DX Contest.

3. The W.I.A. Official List of Countries for DXCC, as published in January "A.R." is by no means perfect for the following reasons:

(a) It perpetuates some of the stupidities of the A.R.R.L. list, although some of the most glaring ones have been omitted.

(b) It could be amended by the addition of several sensible ones in the A.R.R.L. list, such as Chatham Is., Lord Howe Is., Juan Fernandez Is. and the like, and it could be further improved by the addition of East Germany and by breaking down New Guinea into New Guinea, Bismark Archipelago, and Mandated Solomon Islands.

(c) The list you will note, includes Java, Sumatra, Celebes and Moluccas and Cambodia, but quite omits the Philippines, which does not appear in the A.R.R.L. list.

4. The W.I.A. DXCC Award was instituted for the benefit of members and to provide a grading of DX hapiness and the rules of the W.I.A. Award are not the same as those of the A.R.R.L. Award, as will be seen by anyone who takes the trouble to read both of them. Since I have been a member of both, there is no valid reason why it should be tied to the A.R.R.L. Award, and to the peculiar thinking of the American State Department. It should be noted that the above list of countries mentioned in para. 3 (c), from the A.R.R.L. list, is due to that fuzzy thinking.

5. I have established that you can shoot the A.R.R.L. Partial List for the 1959 DX Contest, if you can also do the same to the W.I.A. list, but not to the same extent however. The serious thing is to revise the list and put it on a sensible basis. With this view, the W.I.A. tabled a resolution with the I.A.R.U. to get up a new list, acceptable to all I.A.R.U. members, and to have a committee comprising the A.R.R.L., R.S.G.B. and W.I.A.

The resolution was passed with the A.R.R.L. and the R.S.G.B. abstaining, and the result given by the A.R.R.L. was that it already had a list and was happy with it.

I do not anticipate that anything will come of this resolution since two of the committee named are against the idea and it would be embarrassing for the A.R.R.L. to be faced with a basinal amendment.

6. The establishment of pressure groups and attempts by individuals to discredit the Award will not achieve anything. The sensible thing to do is to divorce your ideas from the American Award and work for an amended list based on a sensible approach to the subject. At the present time the Awards Manager's time is given over to managing the DXCC Award for not more than 35 active members, an extremely small minority of the membership of the Institute, and it often wonder, whether it is all worth while.

7. If by now, there is anyone still convinced that the Award is overrated, the W.I.A. should slavishly follow the A.R.R.L. countries list, then by all means let him give the Australian Award any and secure recognition of his DX prowess from the ARRL. For my part, I should be delighted as the time I will have will be used more productively.

—Gordon Weynton, VK3XU, Awards Manager.

### DX MORAL

Editor "A.R.", Dear Sir,

Recent controversy on DXCC in these columns reminds me to tell again the story I heard in the mess at Abadan during a recent business trip to the Middle East oil fields. With me were two large and strong men, one on some electronic assignment in the area. One, an ardent DX enthusiast, was bemoaning the fact that the Shah of Persia would not allow Amateur Radio in his country. The usual boasting of countries worked. The DX'er claimed he had 267 and would like to work Persia for his 268th. The other was very clued-up chap with three degrees replied, "And on how many of these 267 countries do people live? Naturally our DX friend was at a loss to answer and I quickly changed the subject to the great Australian ball game and told these chaps they were missing a lot in not having Australian Rules Football on the U.S.A. sporting programme!"

The moral of this story is simple; and I repeat it to all those fellows who foolishly make DX their master. Do not lose your balance and remember there's nothing arse or outstanding in working new countries. It's better to keep your own house in order. A recent private letter to the DXCC Editor showed it had brought divorce and broken homes to at least 5%.

Part of our code is "The Amateur is Balanced". Worth remembering when you turn in at 2.0 a.m. and wonder why the family gets browned off next day.

—Ruth Jones, VK3BG.

### WHY IS JUSTIFICATION NECESSARY?

Editor "A.R.", Dear Sir,

Comments have been made in recent issues of "A.R." in relation to "using the bands or losing them". Even the Federal President has aired this idea in his article in April "A.R." All this has done is to intensify the controversy in this late stage before the I.T.U. seem to be in a case of "shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted". The F.A.S.C. have already made up their minds on the figures as density per kilocycle and density per channel, if Mr. Hull's remarks are correct. It is a pity that the I.T.U. have not done so.

However, if one cares to refer to the editorials in "A.R." for July and August 1959, a contrary view appears to be taken. I quote "The worth of the Amateur to any country can't be weighed by how many times he operates in a week... use them or lose them... should be a minor worry". Again in August "A.R." one finds an extract from an eminent U.K. journal in the editorial. Quote: "The present level of Amateur activity with the high state of development of the art of Amateur Radio, has become its own justification... proper share of the ether. This is not a matter of 'privilege' or even a 'right' (in the moral sense), but simply a requirement by virtue of sheer weight of numbers".

Although we might not be able to justify our existence through sheer weight of numbers, amateur radio has survived throughout the world can. But the first part of this extract, contains, I feel, the essence of an idea which could be used as weight in the drive for retention or extension of the frequency bands.

Why should we have to justify ourselves in the eyes of the F.A.S.C.? What sort of justification do we need? I am not sure. I'm not Amateur Radio an internationally recognised service, and on that basis, demand, through "sheer weight of numbers", slices of the spectrum for our use. For what? I have realised of course that this last, perhaps naive,

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VK4NG—R. H. Greenwood	840 "
VK5ZAX—R. W. Wehr	739 "
VK6WG—W. W. Green	510 "
VK7ZAI—D. A. H. Thorne	289 "
ZL2ADO—K. J. Mercer	261 "

Open:

VK3ALZ—I. F. Berwick	863 pts.
VK5QR—R. V. Galle	739 "
VK6BE—R. Elms	485 "
VK7LZ—C. P. Wright	296 "
VK9XK—S. R. Coleston	387 "
ZL1BJ—W. R. Hamer	434 "
ZL2DS—K. R. Kirkcaldie	438 "

Receiving:

C. Thorpe (VK4)	741 pts.
J. Hilliard (VK3)	468 "

Scores, Phone:

VK4G	840	VK2HE	388
42AX	794	5ZBL	386
42AZ	751	8ZGA	304
52AX	739	7ZAI	289
32AT	598	4ZBI	275
2ABR	530	6ZBP	274
6WG	510	ZL2ADO	261
3ZFM	475	VK5ZCJ	232
2ZBP	456	8CF	182
3ZCG	423	2ZCF	ch. log
6ZBZ	368	2MZ	ch. log

Open:

VK3ALZ	863	ZL2DS	434
6BE	739	VK9XK	387
42AX	465	8ZGA	296
ZL1BJ	438	7ZF	97

Receiving:

C. Thorpe (VK4)	741 pts.
J. Hilliard (VK3)	468 "
D. King (VK4)	458 "

statement is physically outvoted by the combined commercial interests. However, Amateur Radio exists—and because of this, irrespective of the internal organisation, the number operating at any given time would justify justification. I would like to hear or see the W.I.A. proposals sometime, and see whether anything is included along these lines.

The fact that there are only a few active on the bands at any one time is of no consequence. Could anyone supply figures, percentage-wise, showing the number of operators at any one time on the bands in the U.K. U.S.A. in comparison with those in Australia? It would show whether we are populating our bands with a commensurate density.

When the W's are coming through on 30 there doesn't seem to be an undue number. How many W's are there?

No. I feel that it's what we are, not what we do that matters in this fight.

It appears to be freely acknowledged that our technical contributions are of minor importance, the fact that we can work the other side of the world is no longer an outstanding achievement, our "trans chaps" as reported by one correspondent all appear to be negative reasons for the existence of Amateur Radio itself. Let alone reasons for the extension or retention of an already overworked frequency cycle or density per channel we can supply

—Peter Williams, VK3JLZ.

# AMATEUR CALL SIGNS

FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1959

## NEW CALL SIGNS

**VE— New South Wales**  
 2ET—T. G. Elliott, 41 Brisbane St., South  
 Maitland.  
 2AHO—A. H. E. Bridgman, 53 Hunter St., Mona  
 Vale.  
 2AKK—K. H. Howard, 5 Helen St., Merewether.  
 2AMC W. McDonnell, 286 Wolfer Rd., Ryde.  
 2ZGR G. H. Roneyne, 7/14 Joubert St., Hun-  
 ters Hill.  
 22LS—L. R. Stephens, 50 Meurant Ave., Wagga  
 Wagga.  
 22TM—T. I. Mills, 19 Bullecourt Ave., Moama.

### Victoria

2AKN—D. G. Baulch, "Tooronga", Broadwater,  
 via Port Fairy.  
 2ZDJ D. J. Ashcroft, 8 Doulton Rd., Black-  
 burn.  
 3ZEM—N. S. Madden, Station: 15 Hassett St.,  
 Shepparton; Postal: Box 248, Sheppar-  
 ton.  
 3ZGN—G. M. Nicholls, 14 Somerset Rd., Glen  
 Iris.  
 3ZGV—F. D. Voigt, 13 Nevis St., Hartwell.

### Queensland

4BW—O. Whitehead, 101 Zillman Rd., Hendra.  
 4ZCM—F. E. McQuirrie, 19 Sixth Ave., Kedron.  
 4ZCS—A. A. Sweetser, 98 Taringa Pde., In-  
 dooroopilly.

### South Australia

5JD—J. M. Coulter, 69 Connarra Ave., Ack-  
 land Gardens.  
 6SJ—J. A. Hampel, Station: 160 Tynte St.,  
 Nth. Adelaide; Postal: NW89, 116 North  
 Ter., Adelaide.  
 6ZDP—P. I. Woodlands, 5 Clinton Ave., Myrtle  
 Bank.

### Western Australia

80Y—T. H. Mitchell, 18 Furnival St., Narrogin.

### Tasmania

TFH—H. H. Young, 11a Amberst St., Ulverstone.

## Territory of Papua and New Guinea

8DH—D. G. Hallam, O.T.C. Cottage No. 2,  
 Sulphur Creek Rd., Rabaul.  
 8JD—J. F. Dalstead, D.C.A. Moss, Huan Rd.,  
 Lobe.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

**VE— New South Wales**  
 2BG—B. L. Glamup, 343 Klasing Point Rd.,  
 Ermington.  
 2BW—A. K. Moys, 17/133 Macleay St., Potts  
 Point.  
 2MF—C. M. Kling, 105 Markham St., Armidale.  
 2NV—J. V. Smith, 24 Tintern Rd., Ashfield.  
 2PS—P. G. Stephens, 8 Avenue, Lake Park,  
 Narrabeen.  
 3QV—A. M. L. Mom, 15 William St., Rosebery.  
 3UE—G. E. Denays, 223 William St., Kings  
 Cross.  
 3VB—L. W. Burgess, 100 Walker St., Cabra-  
 matia.  
 2AAB—B. E. White, 28 Redgrove Rd., Norman-  
 hurst.  
 2AGD—G. L. Lee, 14 Waratah St., Kahibah.  
 2AGW—A. E. Hay, 1525 Pittwater Rd., Mona  
 Vale.  
 2ALV—L. Jordan, 27 Pigtree Cres., Figtree.  
 2AHM—A. A. W. Pryor, 30 Tango Ave., Dee  
 Why.  
 2AOM—A. N. Murdoch, Lot 3, Galston Rd.,  
 Hornsby Heights.  
 2AYQ—R. R. McKew, 20 Silbick St., Five Dock.  
 2ZBW—P. W. White, 48 North St., Auburn.  
 2ZRW—R. Weaver, St. Andrews College, New-  
 town.

### Victoria

3CZ—A. I. Berry, Station: "Belayoe Park,"  
 Hazelwood Place, Warburton; Postal:  
 P.O. Box 77, Warburton.  
 3IK—I. K. Sewell, 72 View Hill Rd., N. Balwyn.  
 3KT—P. T. Filmer, 8/31 Docker St., Elwood.  
 3MD—R. H. McDonald, 247 Sussex St., Merlyn-  
 ston.  
 3PJ—V. H. Leonard, Station: "Greenoble," Main  
 Rd., St. Andrews; Postal: C/o P.O.,  
 Smith Gully Road.  
 3PL—J. F. Isaac, 378 Balcombe Rd., Seacombe.  
 3PX—H. M. Finnigan, 13-15 Beley St., St.  
 Arnaud.  
 3QX—N. Campbell, 45 (Lot 1) Kennedy St.,  
 Oak Park.  
 3AKV—K. C. Burnett, Lot 86, Adelaide Grove,  
 Mt. Waverley.

3ASH—J. L. C. Hart, 83 Union Rd., Surrey  
 Hills.  
 3ZDN R. M. Macrae, Lot 4, Cheryllane Court,  
 Kilsyth.

### Queensland

4JU—F. W. Nolan, 178 Given Ter., Paddington,  
 Brisbane.  
 4PW D. W. Creeland, 82 Alfred St., Mackay.  
 4WT—N. J. G. Walling, 23 Bynch St., Wulgara,  
 Townsville.  
 4ZBZ—R. M. Feenaghty, Regent St., Wynnum  
 North.

### South Australia

5KE—E. T. Walter, 5 Bovey St., Hampstead  
 Gardens.  
 5FY R. A. Cairn, 143 Woodford Rd., Eliza-  
 beth North.

### Western Australia

6JN—J. W. G. Nind, Lot 11, Talbot Rd., Swan  
 View.  
 6RK—R. S. Cheate, 31 Poplar Ave., Salters  
 Point.

## CANCELLED CALL SIGNS

**VE— New South Wales**  
 2GM—G. McDowell.  
 2TS—T. G. McKew.  
 3UH—N. G. Hansen.  
 3UO—J. F. Dalstead (now VK4JD).

### Victoria

3DP—J. M. Farrer.  
 3IG—G. W. Ireland.  
 3AHM—H. A. McLeod.  
 3EX—D. G. Voigt.

### Queensland

4CW—K. C. Winkett.  
 4ZAW—G. Whitehead (now VK4BW).

### South Australia

5BY—D. H. Whitburn.  
 5GR—H. E. A. Gehrke.

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 Victoria—Dave Wardlaw, VK2ADW;  
 Queensland—Arthur Wals, VK4AW;  
 South Australia—Ron Hughes, VK3DO;  
 Western Australia—Ron Hugo, VK3KW;  
 Tasmania—E. Crulan, VK3KE;  
 Papua-New Guinea—Russ Colston, VK3KX.  
**Fed. Contest Committee:** Reg. Harris, VK3RR,  
 Secretary, Box 1234K, G.P.O., Adelaide, S.A.  
**QSL Bureau:** R. E. Jones, VK3RJ, 23 Landale  
 Street, East, E.I. Wm.  
**Awards Manager:** A. O. Weyntan, VK3KU,  
 3 York Street, Bonbeach, Vic.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

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 VK3AQR, 17 Brooks St., West Wyaland,  
 Collierville and Lakes; H. Hawkins, VK-  
 3Y, 6 Comfort Ave., Cammeraj; Western; W.  
 S. Lott, VK2WV, "Cambridge," Forbes; South  
 Coast & Southern; E. Fisher, VK2DY, 2 Oxide  
 St., Warrumbungle, 5th Western; W. S. Edge,  
 VK2JJO, Wallace St., Colson; Tamworth;  
 S. Smith, VK2APS, 30 Upper St., Tamworth.  
**VICTORIA**  
**President:** D. A. Wordlaw, VK3ADW.  
**Secretary:** J. R. Lancaster, VK3JL.

## FED. CONTEST COMMITTEE

The final meeting of the retiring committee  
 was held on 28th April to attend to the results  
 of the Ross Hull V.H.F. Contest and to conclude  
 the business.  
 To take up the gap between the retirement  
 of the old committee and election of officers of  
 the new committee to be nominated by the  
 VKT Divisional Council and ratified by Federal  
 Executive the retiring committee is acting on  
 their behalf as follows:  
**VK-ZL Contest:** The retiring Chairman and  
 Contest Manager will attend to the posting of  
 the next VK-ZL Rules to overseas magazines  
 and societies.  
**Ross Hull Contest:** The results will be pub-  
 lished in A.R. and certificates will be forward-  
 ed. Any queries should be addressed to the  
 retiring committee.  
**The incoming committee** will take over with  
 the checking of the R.D. Contest and logs  
 should be sent to any change, W.I.A., Box 571B,  
 G.P.O., Hobart, Tasmania.

## CONTEST CALENDAR

Compiled by W.I.A. Fed. Contest Com.



## NATIONAL FIELD DAY:

Comments on any changes to the F.C.C.,  
 W.I.A., Box 571B, G.P.O., Hobart,  
 Tasmania.

## REMEMBER DAY CONTEST, 1959:

Dates: Saturday, 15th August, to Sun-  
 day, 18th August, 1959.  
 Duration: 1959 hrs. E.A.S.T. to 1759 hrs.  
 E.S.T. for 1958.  
 Logs: Return postmarked not later than  
 8th September, 1959.

## VK-ZL QSL CONTEST, 1959:

Dates: Phone—1059 GMT, Saturday, 2nd  
 Oct. to 1059 GMT, 5th Oct. 1959.  
 C.W.—10th Oct.—11th Oct. 1959.  
 Rules: Overseas, as for 1957. VK-ZL  
 Bonus value altered (watch Aug.  
 A.R.).

## "CQ" WORLD-WIDE:

Dates: Phone—Last week-end Oct. '59.  
 C.W.—Last week-end Nov. '59.

## NOTES

**Administrative Secretary:** Mrs. Mary, 478 Vic-  
 toria Parade, East Melbourne, C.I. Postal  
 address: P.O. Box 2, East Melbourne, C.I.  
**Meeting Night:** First Wednesday of each month  
 at the Radio School, Royal Melbourne Techni-  
 cal College.  
**Divisional Sub-Editor:** V. M. Jones, VK3YE,  
 7 New St., Surrey Hills, E.I.  
**QSL Bureau:** Inwards and Outwards—W.I.A.,  
 Vic. Div., P.O. Box 36, East Melbourne, C.I.  
**Zone Correspondents:** Western: W. J. Kinella,  
 VK3AKW, Magdala, Lubeck; South Western:  
 W. Wines, 48 Cranley St., Warrimbool; Far  
 North Western: M. Folie, VK3GZ, 101 Lemon  
 Ave., Mildura; Milledale: R. Jonsson, VK-  
 3ND, Farnsworth St., Castlemaine; North  
 Eastern: T. K. Tennant, Park St., Tatura;  
 Eastern: J. Spark, VK2JAK, 20 Marshall Ave.,  
 Mooc.  
**QUEENSLAND**  
**President:** John Pickles, VK3PF.  
**Secretary:** W. Rafter, VK3PR, Box 638J,  
 G.P.O., Brisbane.  
**Meeting Night:** Fourth Friday of each month at  
 the State Service Union Rooms, Elizabeth  
 Street, Brisbane.  
**Divisional Sub-Editor:** D. B. Hughes, VK4ZBD,  
 30 Mayne Rd., Bowen Hills, Brisbane.  
**QSL Bureau:** Jack Files, VK4JF, Vanda St.,  
 Brisbane.  
**Zone Correspondents:** Maryborough: R. J.  
 Glassop, VK4BG, 20 North St., Maryborough;  
 Tewantin: R. G. Jones, VK4RW, Hogan  
 St., Stuart, Townsville.

As chairman of the committee for the five  
 years that the members have been drawn from  
 the S.A. Division, I have been very conscious  
 of the ability and the loyalty that those mem-  
 bers have brought to their office and on behalf  
 of all members of the Institute I wish to  
 thank them sincerely for their co-operation.  
 In spite of much hard work and in spite  
 of the many varied problems that have beset  
 the committee from time to time, I can safely  
 say that the service has brought its joy and  
 happiness.  
 To the VKT Division, the committee extends  
 its best wishes for the future of the contest  
 for their nominees. We are confident that they  
 will receive the same help from contestants that  
 they have given.  
 On behalf of the Contest Manager, Reg. Rich-  
 ards, VK3DO, the Secretary, Reg. Harris, VK3RR,  
 the V.H.F. Advisor, Reg. Galle, VK3QR,  
 and DX Advisor, Les Catford, VK3LC, to  
 many thanks.  
 —Gordon Bowen, VK3KU,  
 Chairman (Retiring F.C.C.)

## FEDERAL QSL BUREAU

The A.R.L. advise the new address for the  
 W5 QSL Bureau is: Brad A. Beard, USA2E,  
 Box 3172, P.O. Houston 5, Texas, U.S.A.  
 A number of cards addressed to different  
 HL stations have been returned by the  
 K.A.R.L., Central Box 162, Seoul, Korea. They  
 bear the endorsement "Unauthorised Stn., re-  
 turn to sender".  
 Cards for VK3PT should be routed care of  
 Fred Bell, VK3YU, who is handling them on  
 behalf of Ted Fuller.  
 Under date of 26th April, Eric BERS195  
 supplies the following notes for the column and  
 solicits a few tears on behalf of his beloved  
 "Magpies". All the tears from the walling wall  
 at Jerusalem would not atone for their perfor-  
 mance since 1952, and his good boy recently  
 took a short vacation on Puerto Rico, as the  
 guests of Luke VK4BU. Luke, who is a con-  
 tractor, and his boys who also made a call sign,  
 showed the Scarlets the Shole Hand Jack  
 Elliott, ZL3CC, currently on a motor tour of  
 the accessible parts of Europe, will later cross  
 the Atlantic and spend a couple of weeks at  
 his two months in W and VE, as the guest  
 of W2CC.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**President:** R. W. Austin, VK3KA.  
**Secretary:** J. C. Hamilton, VK3AC, Box 1234K,  
 G.P.O., Adelaide. Telephone: M 7591.  
**Meeting Night:** Second Tuesday of each month  
 at 19 Waymouth St., Adelaide.  
**Divisional Sub-Editor:** E. C. Daw, VK3EF, P.O.  
 Box 44, Gawler, S.A.  
**QSL Bureau:** G. Luxton, VK3XIX, 27 Belair Rd.,  
 West Mitcham, S.A. (Inwards & Outwards).

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**President:** L. Roeger, VK3HR.  
**Secretary:** J. R. Elms, VK3BE, Box N1002,  
 G.P.O., Perth, W.A.  
**Meeting Night:** Third Tuesday of month at  
 Radio Tech. College Annex, Mounts Bay Rd.  
**Divisional Sub-Editor:** J. R. Elms, VK3BE,  
 29 Central Road, Marmaduke.  
**QSL Bureau:** Jim Rumble, VK3RU, Box 7319,  
 G.P.O., Perth, W.A. (Inwards and Outwards).

## TASMANIA

**President:** Mr. L. R. Jensen, VK7LJ.  
**Secretary:** K. E. Millin, VK7KA, Box 371B,  
 G.P.O., Hobart.  
**Meeting Night:** First Wednesday of each month  
 at W.I.A. Clubroom, 147 Liverpool St., Hobart.  
**Divisional Sub-Editor:** I. Nichols, VK7ZZ, 9  
 Crosby St., New Town.  
**QSL Bureau:** J. Batchier, VK7JB, 38 Willow-  
 grove Ave., Lower Sandy Bay, Hobart.  
**Zone Correspondents:** First in Victoria—Jones—  
 Terry Tong, VK7TT, Northern Zone—Jany  
 Waldon.

## PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

**President:** F. N. Nolan, VK3FN.  
**Secretary:** Roy Taylor, VK3AF, P.O. Box 264,  
 Port Moresby.  
**Meeting Night:** Last Wednesday in each month,  
 R.S. Reading Rooms, Elia Beach, Port Moresby.  
**QSL Bureau:** J. Kiernan, VK3QK, P.O. Box  
 264, Port Moresby.

Writer has 11 of the 12 months of 1958 "CQ"  
 for free disposal. November 3 the month that  
 is missing, unless returned by the borrower in  
 the next issue. First in with postage—approx-  
 imately 5/—will get the lot.

—Ray Jones, VK3RJ, Manager.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### HUNTER BRANCH

Unfortunately your correspondent was absent  
 in Sydney during the April meeting when about  
 200 participated in a demonstration by John  
 ZIU of his stereo apparatus. The attendance  
 book was filled with empty spaces but forty  
 members were present together with repre-  
 sentatives of the I.R.E., "A" and "B" broadcast  
 stations, radio trade houses, music stores, music  
 critics, record manufacturers, University and  
 Technical College and the public. It was voted  
 a great success and given to the College and  
 to Gordon SCI for the loan of the  
 speakers and vented encouragements. Bill ZIU  
 fortunately missed an opportunity to hear that  
 he was as bad this morning, but was being  
 sound so dear to his heart, music was being  
 heard 24/7 across the busy metropolitan  
 streets.  
 The monthly social was again poorly attended  
 but those who were there were fortunate to  
 meet Kim WYNNE, of the U.S. Ventura. If his  
 fog is as bad this morning, the writer won't be  
 there as he almost got lost after delivering  
 his Fennel Bay and Terahia cargo. Bill WIAL  
 visited Ron JASJ during the month and also  
 spent Bill's per medium of the twisted ap-  
 pear. When we arrived at Bill's place for the  
 social he was using his DX-40 and was pleased  
 to hear we were using the 400. He was very  
 interpret what fellow-countryman Dave SDS  
 was saying. Looks like the s.b. monster be-  
 lieved that at Charlestown is going to make  
 itself heard from 24/7 very soon now.  
 Congrats to John Rugg in attaining his ZZ1R  
 call and hope that it won't be long before the  
 mouse is mastered.

## SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we  
 record the passing of—

VK3WT - W. G. Barratt.

VK3AWL - L. Western.



Believe Bill ZXT is taking up a collection to commemorate the retirement of Methusalem, understanding that full particulars can be obtained from Gordon ACI. Pleased to hear one of our more distant branch members report in on the 2AVSW hook-up, I refer to Zuz ZCY. Congratulations to the new State Council and to Dave 2SO for his elevation to Presidency. Sorry to lose Pierce 2APQ who did an exceptional job over the past two years. There was quite a gathering of the Goons at Dural early this month. Muriel 2AIA, Bill ZXL and Neta; Ivan 2AIM and Ernie; Tom 2AOV and Benari, and 2ASR were all present, some with and some without their harmonics. The only Goon absent was Pop 2AEI, who unfortunately doesn't take too kindly to travel. Dural was not wrecked, but I am sure Pierce and his cohorts breathed a sigh of relief when all and sundry departed.

Hope all you chaps headed the words of our advisers and wired, wrote or rang your Federal Member in regards to the proposed cut in your frequencies. The first die has been cast, so now you know why the official arm twisters have been at work so vehemently. The Fund is still open.

George 2ADZ has been roaming this district with his 2S and what he did to 2AQH on the Ballarat table still makes my hand shake—frame up of course.

The next Branch meeting will be held at the University of New South Wales, Tighe Hill, at 8 p.m. on Friday, June 12, and the next social at Bill Hall's will be on Wednesday, June 24. Your presence will make one more.

## VICTORIA

This month we have a change of scribe for the notes in that Vern 3YE, who has been so ably attending to these for so long, has had to give up due to other business arrangements. Who it will be in the future we are not sure, so this month items from VK3 are very brief.

The general meeting of the Division was held on Wednesday 8th and 34 members were present. Fred 3YS, who is now the Vice-President, welcomed David 3ADW as Victorian Division President. We had visitors in George Fink, WEDTT, who came with John Hiney 3ZF.

The agenda item was films, which were: Operation Foothead, an excellent documentary on the establishment of the British Antarctic Base for the I.G.V. at Shackleton; a travel film on Switzerland, and a further documentary across the Antarctic covering the operations of the Australian Antarctic Base at Mawson.

Following the break the adjourned annual general meeting was resumed and the accounts for the year were received and adopted. The annual general meeting was then closed and the ordinary general meeting re-opened. The following new members were admitted: J. F. Ryan, 3ZBR; P. Furr, 3ZAF; J. R. Goding, 3ZGG; T. K. Long, 3ZPT; and Associates M. W. O'Connor and V. H. Richardson.

The meeting elected Alan Elliott, 3AEL, as Federal Councillor in place of David 3ADW, who resigned to become Divisional President. David answered a number of questions regarding the F.A.S.C. and urged members who had not already done so, to contact their individual

Wireless Institute of Australia

Victorian Division

## A.O.C.P. CLASS

commences

THURSDAY, 30th JULY, '59

Theory is held on Monday evenings, and Morse and Regulations on Thursday evenings from 8 to 10 p.m.

Persons desirous of being enrolled should communicate with—Secretary W.I.A., Victorian Division, P.O. Box 36, East Melbourne (Phone: JA 3535, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or the Class Manager on either of the above evenings.

## OBITUARY

WILLIAM ("BILL") BARRATT, VK3WT

Bill, who died on 30th April, 1958, after a long illness, was an active Amateur pre-war—operating under the call sign of VK3WT from 1936 onwards. He was a keen c.w. man and only came on phone after the formation of the Geelong Amateur Radio Club, of which he was a foundation member.

He was a member of the Wireless Institute of Australia for many years.

His bright and cheerful manner and ready smile endeared him to all who met him and he will be sadly missed from our ranks.

Deepest sympathy is extended to his relatives.

Federal Members of Parliament. This was to be done in the Amateurs' capacity as a private citizen as soon as possible.

Fred 3YS appealed for a member to come forward to organise the erection of antennae for SWL.

The next meeting, Jack 3ZDG is organising a v.h.f. lecture and demonstration; and in July, Len 3AIL will give a talk on single sideband with particular reference to the phasing method.

## GEELONG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

April was a month of considerable activity for club members, but unfortunately ended on a note of sadness when on Thursday, 30th, our good friend Bill 3WT passed into the ranks of "Silent Keys". Bill, an original and highly respected member of the club was the recipient of the only life membership certificate ever presented by the club. We extend to Bill's relatives our deepest sympathy in their loss.

Club tx hunts were well attended. The first on April 1 was won by L. Costa and party; Keith Vriens, AM 3A7F and Jim 3ABT being the operators at the hidden location. On 25th Bob 3IC with 1K mounted on the motor bike went into hiding. He was found by K. Vriens, L. Costa and H. Michael in that order. The second hunt for the evening was again won by K. Vriens with this time H. Michael in second place.

The S.W. Zone Convention on the second week-end was a busy time for all club members and the culmination of weeks of planning to ensure that all visitors had a really enjoyable time. We congratulate Keith Vriens in being the first winner of the club trophy. This trophy, a very nice barometer and thermometer

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mounted on a piece of polished wood, was presented to the S.W. Zone to be awarded at each convention to the first member of another or affiliated club who finds the 90 mc hidden tx.

On 22nd of the month AIE JAFF gave a very interesting talk on modulation with particular reference to the 122.22 Mc. Syllabus items for June are: June 10, home construction of gear, part I; Amateur tx's, and on June 24, the subject of the 122.22 Mc. should be the topic to be present—the Annual Meeting.

— . . . —

## QUEENSLAND

The absence of notes from the Divisional Sub-Editor over the past months has been due to the editor's retirement due to the work of our usual conductor, Alan AZAE. Alan is to be congratulated on his effort in carrying the editorial for so long and even when the impossible became the order of the day.

Elsewhere in this issue are some of the pertinent details concerning this year's Convention, particularly how much it's going to hurt your pocket. Inflation, or the cost of living or something, has not yet hit us, so we can still provide the meals that really made last year's show a success.

By the time you read this, the programme and the organisation of the whole show will be completed, down to the last little item, so can assure you that the work of the Divisional Council whose feelings are going to be pretty hurt if you don't turn up. This is the only Convention in Queensland where you have a chance of attending, so as it's bigger, brighter and better than last year, it should be a good idea to attend.

The last general meeting produced a most unusual tape recording from Tom AZEB on synthetic music, which I understand will be played over 4WJ some time in the future. It is recommended for your attention as being really worth listening, for it opens up new vistas in the field of music—AZEB.

## TOWNSVILLE

It was maintaining to be the last evening so well attended, in fact would not be a bit surprised that the attendance of the Divisional member was admitted. Claude 4UX, from Milsanda who has been transferred to the National station here. Apologies were received from a few members who had been called to work in case of sickness amongst their co-workers. A lengthy discussion took place in regard to preparing a code book for use in call sign order. This may be stopping a few from attending as their turn comes. It was decided that if the code book is not ready, we will give a lecture, it was OK with the other members. You are allowed to lecture on any subject you know and can give a lecture and not a radio. Some good lectures are in the offering.

Conditions on the band has not been so good tonight, like fishing, it means being on the right band at the right time. Quite pleased to receive amongst my cards JTAA and FWASB will make that double contact. Bob 4GZ has the quad working. Bob 4CR maintaining weekly skeds with Wilkes Land—VKO. Bert 4IL on leave and re-building the modulator. Eric 4EL just waiting to start. Owen 4OV and Ed 8OW are heard in ragchew when the skip is right.

Back to along small items of news of the far northern boys. Bob 4TK threatens to try 20 mc one of these days. Claude 4ZY still in strife with burnt out transformers. Bill 4XK just back from a holiday in Sydney; took 43 days on the return trip. Harry 4HO in Moesman is still complaining of wet weather and long delays. John 4FT is on tour service. Love, the DX way to yarn with the boys in the Tablelands. Sorry to hear that Ken 4XD has been on the sick list. His beat oscillator is not functioning properly. Basil 4GZ has told us last that a 7 Mc. folded dipole does not load properly on 14 Mc. New link coupling hastily made.

Hope the I.T.U. Fund gets a boost as we have been talking to a few non-subscribers for some time past and article in "A.R." by the Federal President.

— . . . —

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A very filled meeting room was present to view a film on transistors, loaned by the Mulwiny and Mulwiny Radio Club. The film was dealt with in some detail, and proceeded through r.f. amplifiers, i.e. strips, a.i. amplifiers and output stages, with complete explanations to how they fit in all.

Prior to the films being shown, a few items of general business were dealt with and Fed-

eral Councilor, Rex 8DO, gave a few minutes talk on his impressions and some ideas arising from the Easter Federal Convention.

We were visited by a DX visitor to VKS recently in Bill WEAL. He was here in course of a tour of Australia with his XYL. Places visited here being at Austin SWO and Bram 4XZ. Bill 4XZ did not collect very much, monthly meeting for there must be very few VKS DXers who haven't worked Bill at one time or another.

Wal 8DF reports completing his new table-topper, Geloso v.f.o. to parallel 80Hz, and on test it sounds first class. Keith 8KH went portable recently and let us hear his 1st in action from the beach. Brian 8TN heard recently with 12W, to a Wyndham. We have heard of a certain member of our club who went to VKS Easter time, who, not aware of the weather there, decided an overcoat was a must. He promptly put it in a wardrobe at the airport and returned, it was on the Overland to return. Returned to him three weeks later. Anyway, it doesn't rain in Gawler, does it?

We were sorry to lose John 5QL who made his farewell on the air on April 18, an hour before the meeting was pulled down. John returns to U.K. after a short stay here. We will look for his G call before long. We enjoyed having you with us John, and hope you caught the bug. If he was on the coast about considering a permanent transfer?

W.I.C.N.E. activities have of course slumped down from a first point of view, but as that is not the case, the club is still active. Practices, roll calls, and the like are being continued. By the way, if anyone hears any of these exercises they put in, write to the Secretary and report on them, for on the 122.22 Mc. is "Coverage", so the more reports they get from as many centres as possible, the better the club can form a pattern of usable frequencies and locations.

An extension to the SWL broadcast by including v.h.f. notes by Al 5ZCR is a good thing. I don't see how it can be done, and complete with dipole on 40, works on 15 mX, too. Nobby 8WK heard recently discussing S.B. generation; mean business, Nobby? Reg. 8WB on the book with Bill 5VR heard quite a bit lately with great strength and getting into DX also.

Lee 8LG raised an interesting point at last meeting in regard to a code and general c.w. jargon when working phone. That's a subject worth an argument any day and whilst not pursued to the end, it was decided that it seemed general that we conduct our contacts not for others but for ourselves, so that phrases and expressions peculiar to "Amateur service" operators did not in any way differ from the special jargon used, shall we say, by amateur photographers, or even fishermen, or sailors, or even the police. It was on this one. A.R.R.L. had something on this recently, but we don't always have to follow someone else.

— . . . —

## TASMANIA

This month, the pride of place goes to the North-Western Zone, particularly those members who had the energy and foresight in starting A.O.C. in class 20. Bob 4GZ has come into a full-blown Technical School class of about 20. In the South, also an A.O.C.P. class, well into double figures, and in operation. We hope soon to have a nighty quiz hour of Morse practice going on the 80 mX band for you fellows, once the approval of the P.M.G. Dept. is received.

It was good to hear G.L.S. formerly 7LS, on the 60 mX band early in April. Bob 7OM has been active again on the DX band. Ken 7K has been heard on double sideband suppressed carrier. S.B. the next refinement, Ken?

Jack 7VB was very distressed recently as QSL Manager to have returned to him a parcel of VKT cards starting A.O.C. class 20. It was last year to G Land. The G Bureau refused to accept delivery after the Post Office in England had opened the parcel and found it was a set of cards in it which did not conform to regulations relating to printed matter. Naturally, the entire parcel was returned to the sender, the VKT Bureau, including the majority of cards which did not contravene the regulations. Accordingly, the Bureau will have to reject from the G Bureau all cards, on all respects comply with the regulations, so that correct cards will reach their destinations without any further delay.

Conrats to Lon 7LJ on working a JA while portable. The I.T.U. Fund has been re-opened in VKT. We particularly ask those who have been previously contacted to contribute generously the Institute's request for a donation towards the cost of sending our delegate to

the Geneva conference. Send your donations to the Secretary, Box 3718, G.P.O., Hobart. At the May meeting of the Division in Hobart, it was decided that an honour role of past recipients and secretaries should be prepared for display in the club rooms, dating from the beginning of the Institute in 1925.

## NORTH-WESTERN ZONE

Our last monthly meeting was fairly well attended in spite of the flu epidemic and we were treated to a most interesting and informative by Peter 7FF. It was really a fine effort. During April another tx hunt was held; Harold 7MZ and George 7XL together hiding the fox. The band was very quiet. 7RP and Max 7K3 were first home for the afternoon run, and Jim 780 was first in for the morning effort. I think the will be with us until the warmer weather is with us once more.

Another zone member, Frank 7FH, got onto the air recently and I think he has been getting work OK. Good work Frank and welcome to the ranks. Sam 73M is pressing on with the new rig. Max 7MX is still going great guns with his screen modulation. Harold 7MZ thinks the time has come for the c.w. but I apparently he is going to give the c.w. a spell for a while.

Heard on the grapevine of the suggested cuts in the Amateur frequencies on the various bands and I'm afraid if they come to pass we may have much room to work at all on some of the bands. Anyway, I'll hope that such cutting doesn't eventuate. Do your bit chips in the way of donations to the I.T.U. Fund so that John 5JU can represent us to the fall at Geneva.

## HAMADS

1/- per line, minimum 3/-.

Advertisements under this heading will only be accepted from Institute Members who desire to dispose of equipment which is their own personal property. Copy must be received by 6th of the month, and reprints must accompany advertisement. Calculation of cost is based on an average of six words a line. Dealers advertisements not accepted in this column.

**FOR SALE:** Imported Panda PR120V Transceiver, 120w. input power, 150w. c.w., 2/807s parallel output pi-net to co-ax. outlet. Band switched 80 to 10, completely enclosed in solid steel case, filtered leads, I.V.I. proof, carries maker's service, £285. This is not a mini-mitter but the full rated job. F58 Transceiver, modified to crystal operation on 40 metres, and to plate and screen modulation, complete with vibrator power supply, phone mike cables, etc. £20. Inspection and enquiries invited. E. C. Daw, Box 44, Gawler, S.A.

**FOR SALE:** One pair of 4X-150A's, still sealed in original cartons, £12 the pair. A. C. Rechner, 36 Payneham Rd., St. Peters, S.A.

**FOR SALE:** Type A Mk. III Portable Transceiver, 100w. c.w., 230/6 volt, 40-80 metres. Best offer. JX 4693 (Vic.) after 7 p.m.

**SELL:** Klemm T.V.A.T. 200 Field Strength Meter, perfect order, complete with antenna, etc., circuit and book. £100. Rotary Converter, Type T, former 230v. d.c. in, 230v. a.c. out, 1kw. £30. S. Bryant, Nagambie, Victoria.

**SELL:** BC348 Receiver cpte. with pwr. supply and 2 c.c. converters for 15 and 10, double conv. to 85 Kc, S meter, £50. BC348 d.c. to 85 Kc, 17 tubes with pwr. supply, £15. T. R. Naughton, Box 80, Birchlip, Vic.

**WANTED:** Rectifier from A Mk. III. equipment, or wrecked equipment containing it. W. E. Coxon, Darlington, W.A.

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## COLLARO 4-SPEED HI-FI TRANSCRIPTION TURN-TABLE, £33/2/6

CONQUEST — the new Collaro 4-Speed Automatic Record Changer, £18/10/0

## COLLARO 4-SPEED RECORD PLAYER £12/10/0

The world's best COLLARO 3-SPEED TAPE DECK with four HI-FI Heads ..... £25/10/0

### SPECIAL

BSR TU-0 6v. DC Turntable ..... £9/10/0  
BSR TU-0 330v. AC Turntable ..... £7/10/0

### THORENS

#### RECORD PLAYER CB83N

Manual Player, variable speed adjustment, with 15 inch turntable, easy weight adjustment.

£25/0/0

#### RECORD CHANGER CD43N

Fully Automatic Changer, including pause control.

£25/0/0

#### SAPPHIRE REPLACEMENT

Styl to suit Collaro, B.S.R., Garrard, Velvet action record changers and players. Easy to fit yourself.

13/6 each.

DIAMOND STYL for Collaro, B.S.R., Garrard Players and Changers ..... £7  
For Dual Players and Changers, std. Sapphire, LP Diamond ..... £7/11/0

#### HI-FIDELITY ELECTRO-STATIC TWEETERS

available now, Price 32/6

#### COSSOR V.T.V.M. KIT SETS

£29/14/0 plus 12½% Sales T. Complete with instruction books, diagrams and printed circuit.

### Brand New

Baker 12 in. Hi-Fi De Luxe Speakers, £14/19/6  
Limited number only.

## PRONTO SOLDERING GUN

HOT IN FIVE SECONDS, £6/10/0

### SCOPE SOLDERING IRON SPARES

Carbons .....	1/-
Bills .....	19d.
Bakelite Handles .....	13/4
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Centre Rod Assemblies .....	8/4
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Ceramic Beads .....	4d.
Retaining Nuts .....	1/6
Switch Nuts .....	1/6
Scope AC/DC 6v. 5-seconds Soldering Iron .....	£2/16/0
Scope 220v. Transformer .....	49/7
1/2 in., 5/32 in., 3/16 in. Spln. Ties .....	11/6

### GLEN RADIO AC/DC INVERTERS

50 watt Inverters: 12, 24, 32, 50, 110, 220v. DC input; 220v. 50 cycles AC output. £23/9/6.
100 watt Inverters: 12, 24, 32, 50, 110, 220v. DC input; 220v. 50 cycles AC output. £23/9/6.
150 watt Inverters: 12, 24, 32, 50, 110, 220v. DC input; 220v. 50 cycles AC output. £27/1/6.

### METAL CABINETS

Set of 16 Drawers, 48/6

### ZEPHYR MATRIX BOARDS

No. 258-6 holes wide x 3 in. 1/1 ea.	
258B-6 " " " 6 " 3/5 "	
258B-6 " " " 12 " 6/5 "	
258B-6 " " " 36 " 12/7 "	
258B-6 " " " 6 " 2/10 "	
258B-6 " " " 12 " 8/1 "	
258-Small Pin, Solder Lugs 2/6 dz.	
258-Large Pin, Solder Lugs 2/6 dz.	
258-Right Angle Brackets 3/- dz.	
258-Valve Socket, 7-pin. £1/1 ea.	
258- " with shield 8/6 "	
258-Valve Socket, 9-pin. 4/6 "	
258- " with shield 18/7 "	
258-Eye Bolts .....	2/- dz.
258-Riveting Tool .....	38/11

High Quality "Brown" Headphones, Type "F"  
60/- plus 25 per cent. Tax

## HOME-CRAFTS PTY. LTD. for the Finest Stereo and HI-FI Record Playing Equipment.

### MOTORS

Garrard 301 .....	£48/7/6
Connoisseur .....	£49/10/0
Orpheus .....	£50/17/6
Commonwealth Electronic Non-syn. type 12B1 .....	£29/17/6
Synchronous type 12B .....	£30/17/6
Lenco .....	£30/0/0

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Pilot, 12 watt .....	50 Gas.
Angie 3-4 .....	£37/15/6
Angie 5-10 & control unit .....	£48/2/6
Gramphon, c/w. pre-amp. unit .....	£58/16/6
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Quad .....	£113/12/6
Stearns 8 watt Hi-Fi EV4430 .....	£27/15/6
Armstrong A10 .....	£82/10/0

### PICK-UPS

Leak c/w. diamond head and transformer .....	£22/18/4
Ortofon c/w. type A sapphire L.P. head and transformer .....	£18/0/0
Acos Black Shadow .....	£17/15/6

### STEREO—

#### Players and Cartridges

BSR Players HF9/S .....	£16/16/0
BSR Changers UA8/S .....	£22/0/0
Dual 1004/S .....	£31/9/0
Ronette Cartridges .....	£4/12/6
TCR/S Cartridges .....	£2/3/0
Acos OPT Cartridges (dia. mono) .....	£16/10/0
Acos OPT Cartridges (stereo) .....	£15/15/0
Goldring G50 Arm less Cart-ridge .....	£8/16/0

FULL STOCKS of all available Stereo and Monaural Equipment for immediate delivery.

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All available Types Stocked

### PHILIPS

OC16G 59/4	OC70 27/1
OC44 38/10	OC71 37/1
OC45 36/7	OC77 35/6

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TJ1 115/6	2N185 31/10
TS1 37/8	2N308 32/6
TS2 39/8	2N252 35/6
TS3 32/0	

### DIODES

OA70 5/3	GEX35 5/8
OA79 6/5	GEX45 12/11
OAB1 5/7	GEX54 12/11
OAS5 7/1	GEX55 22/7
GEX90 4/11	

### Transistor Transformers ROLA

TR7 Output 420/3.5 ohm .....	18/0
TR5 Output 360/3.5 ohm .....	18/0
DR4 Driver 3000/1530 ohm .....	18/0
TR18 Output 370/3.5 ohm .....	21/0
DR17 Driver 3000/2000 ohm .....	21/0
TR17 Output 450/15 ohm .....	22/6
DR21 Driver 4000/2000 ohm .....	22/6

### Latest Model 4-SPEED CHANGER £12 for this month only.

### TV ANTENNAE

A complete range from £4/15/0

### AVO 10,000 ohm per volt, Pocket Multimeter £9/12/0 plus tax.

ASTOR TV-1 3 in. Oscilloscope. Complete with gratings, etc. £65 plus 12½% Sales Tax.

## ROLA SPEAKERS

3C .....	£13/10/0	6M .....	£2/3/0
4C .....	£13/10/0	12-O .....	£2/3/0
4F .....	£2/1/0	12-O De Luxe .....	£6/10/0
4-SC .....	£1/17/6		
4-SP .....	£2/8/0		
5C .....	£1/13/0		
5-TE .....	£2/1/0	12-MX, twin cone, £4/16/0	
5F .....	£2/7/6		
6-TE .....	£2/5/0	12-OX, twin cone, £11/4/0	
5-TL .....	£3/3/0		
6H .....	£2/5/0	12UX Hi-Fi, 15 ohm V.C., £28/19/6	
6M .....	£2/1/0		
6-8H .....	£2/16/0		
8-PA .....	£2/3/0		

290 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE

FB 3711



# AMATEUR BAND H.F. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER

Model  
**209-R**



This is a 12-Tube (plus 1 voltage stabilizer, 1 current stabilizer, and 2 selenium rectifiers) H.F. Communications Receiver designed exclusively for Amateur Band operation.

*The following features and specifications are presented:*

## FREQUENCY RANGES:

10 metre band: 28.0 — 29.8 Mc.  
11 metre band: 26.4 — 28.1 Mc.  
15 metre band: 20.6 — 22.0 Mc.  
20 metre band: 13.8 — 14.6 Mc.  
40 metre band: 6.95 — 7.5 Mc.  
80 metre band: 3.5 — 4.0 Mc.

## ACCURACY OF CALIBRATIONS:

80, 40 and 20 metre bands  $\pm 10$  Kc.  
15, 11 and 10 metre bands  $\pm 20$  Kc.

## INTERMEDIATE FREQUENCIES:

1st I.F. 4.6 Mc.  
2nd I.F. 467 Kc.

## SENSITIVITY:

Better than 1 microvolt for 1 watt audio output.

## IMAGE REJECTION:

Better than 50 db. on all frequency ranges.

## SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO:

At 1 microvolt better than 6 db.

## TUBE LINE-UP:

R.F. Amplifier ..... 6BA6  
Oscillator buffer ..... 12AU7  
Mixer, 1st I.F. (4.6 Mc.) .. 6BE6  
Mixer, 2nd I.F. (467 Kc.) .... 6BE6  
Crystal Oscillator for S.S.B., 12AU7  
1st I.F. Amplifier ..... 6BA6  
2nd I.F. Amplifier ..... 6BA6  
Audio and A.V.C. Det., B.F.O., 6T8  
Mixer for S.S.B. .... 6BE6  
A.F. Amp. Crystal Calibrator, 12AX7  
Noise Limiter ..... 6AL5  
Audio Output ..... 6AQ5

## SELECTIVITY:

Five positions: Normal, Xtal 1, Xtal 2, Xtal 3, Xtal 4.

## RECEPTION OF S.S.B.:

Amplifier and detector circuit for S.S.B. signals, upper as well as lower sidebands, with carrier re-insertion.

## "S" METER:

S1-S9, S9 + 20 db., S9 + 40 db.

## ANTENNA INPUT:

Balanced or unbalanced.

AMATEUR NET PRICE: £163/1/10 (F.O.R.) including Sales Tax

AVAILABLE FROM ALL LEADING DISTRIBUTORS

SOLE AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES

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